Daily Report

Latin America

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Mercosur Business Meeting Begins in Montevideo

PY1110163291 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1944 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] Montevideo, 10 Oct (EFE)—After opening the first meeting of Common Market of the South (Mercosur) businessmen, Uruguayan Foreign Minister Hector Gros Espiell said here today that the private sector "should be the driving force of this integration process."

The meeting, which is being attended by some 400 Argentine, Brazilian, Paraguayan, and Uruguayan businessmen, will be closed on 11 October by Uruguayan President Luis Alberto Lacalle.

"The governments created the legal framework, and we are obliged to expedite the implementation of Mercosur, but the private sector must be the driving force," the minister said.

The opening ceremony was also attended by Colombian Jorge Luis Ordonez, secretary general of the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI), and Uruguay's Jorge Costa, president of the Christian Association of Business Executives (ACDE), which is sponsoring the meeting.

Among the issues on the agenda are the tax system of Mercosur countries, energy sources, capital markets, transportation of goods, non-tariff restrictions on free trade, the role of the financial system on the regional market, and business seminars.

Among those who are attending are Argentines Carlos Zima, Energy Secretary [title as received] Carlos Bastos, and Guido Tavelli.

Brazil is represented by Jose Cotrim; Nelson Veira Barreira, president of the Sao Paulo Power Company; Luiz Berardi, superintendent of the Rio de Janeiro stock exchange; and Sao Paulo University professor Carlos Eduardo D'Almeida.

Paraguay is represented by Carlos Soca; Ricardo Canesse, Asuncion municipal board chairman; and Cotton Company president Lino Morel.

Venezuela Applies for Caricom Membership

FL1510155091 Bridgetown CANA in English 2024 GMT 15 Oct 91

[By Paget Defreitas]

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Oct 14, CANA—Venezuela has formally applied for membership of the Caribbean Community (Caricom) and has been told that the issue will be raised at an informal meeting of community leaders scheduled for Jamaica early next year, informed sources here said Monday. Caricom Secretary-General Roderick Rainford, in Kingston with the West Indian Commission, declined to comment on the Venezuelan application which was signalled by President Carlos Andres Perez when he addressed the Caricom summit in St. Kitts last July.

"Perez has written to (Trinidad and Tobago Prime Minister Arthur) Robinson applying for membership and Robinson has replied saying that the matter will be raised at the earliest opportunity," said the source, who is close to developments in regional affairs.

Although there is no set procedure, normally applications for membership of the community—up to now a grouping of English-speaking Caribbean countries—would be channelled either through the Georgetown Secretariat or the sitting chairman, in this case the St. Kitts and Nevis prime minister, Kennedy Simmonds.

At the July summit, Perez offered Caricom a one-way free trade agreement for five years in the first instance, but made it clear that Caracas' ultimate goal was to be a member of the community. However, the Venezuelan president stressed that his one-way free trade offer was not predicated on membership of the community and said that he would respect the decision and timing of the Caricom leaders.

"We knew they wanted membership as President Perez indicated in his closing speech at the summit but I don't know anybody expected that he would go right back home and send the application," the source said.

The issue of widening and deeping Caricom is one of the issues being probed by the Shridath Ramphal's West Indian Commission. The commission, for instance, plans visits to the Dominican Republic and Cuba as part of its work, but plans for a visit to Haiti has been disrupted by the lastest military coup that overthrew elected president, Jean Bertrand Aristide. The Dominican Republic and Haiti have in the past called for membership in Caricom while Cuba has been suggesting "a structured relationship" with the community.

The Venezuelan application ahead of the completion of work by the Ramphal commission could put the community in a spot of bother.

"Most likely it will be diplomatically shelved for the time being," said one Caribbean official here. However, a joint Caricom/Venezuela commission established to draft the free trade agreement has already had a meeting, Rainford confirmed.

"One meeting was held in September working on the details of the agreement and another is likely in November," the Caricom secretary general said. A similar group between Caricom and the United States to draft a liberalised trade and investment pact, will have its first meeting towards yearend or early in the new year, he said.

When Rainford and U.S Trade Representative Carla Hills signed a framework agreement in July, it was expected that full negotiations would have begun in September. But the Americans apparently signalled that they were not yet ready for the talks which also gave Caricom more time to prepare.

Drug Enforcement Experts Meet in Bolivia

Economic Development Advocated

PY1310225291 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1913 GMT 12 Oct 91

[Text] La Paz, 12 Oct (EFE)—At the end of the fourth meeting of chiefs of Latin American and Caribbean Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, HONLEA, delegates ruled out repression as a means to eliminate drug trafficking. The experts instead recommended the improvement of the standard of living of peasants who produce coca leaf, the raw material for cocaine.

After five days of closed meetings, representatives decided to implement technical and economic development programs and recommend that industrialized countries reduce the consumption of cocaine and its by-products.

The experts discussed measures to lift bank secrecy rules to help investigations of drug money laundering.

The participants said this would deal "a hard blow" to drug traffickers and their economic structure and help investigations into the origin of fortunes.

During the closing ceremony, UN representative Michael Ayala called on nations to fulfill international agreements and cooperate in the fight against drug trafficking.

Ayala announced the implementation of new measures to control the use of chemicals used for manufacturing cocaine.

Ayala praised the work done by coca leaf-producing countries such as Bolivia, which obtained good results with little resources. Ayala mentioned the "Repentance Decree" that allows drug traffickers to surrender with the promise that they will not be extradited.

One of the aspects that concerned delegates was the alarming increase of consumption in the region and that the minimum age of consumers dropped to less than 10.

The HONLEA will hold its fifth meeting in Mexico City next year. Bolivia is the second-largest coca leaf producer after Peru, and the second-largest cocaine manufacturer, after Colombia.

Cubans Complain of Drug Drop

PA1310000091 Paris AFP in Spanish 1455 GMT 12 Oct 91

[Text] Santa Cruz, Bolivia, 12 October (AFP)—The Cuban delegation to the fourth meeting of chiefs of Latin American and the Caribbean Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (HONLEA) has charged that Cuba is being "bombarded with drugs."

The Cuban delegation disclosed this information in a document presented today during the closing meeting of HONLEA. The document states: "As an unusual occurrence, we report the bombardment of 415 kgs of cocaine from a small airplane flying over Cuban territory."

The document does not specify when the alleged "bombardment" took place, although one of the delegates—who preferred not to be identified—told AFP that such occurrences happen periodically along Cuba's coastline.

The delegate said: "As you know, Cuba's geographical location makes it one of the best routes for the illicit trafficking of drugs from the Caribbean and South America to the United States.

He also disclosed that, since January, and as a result of strict controls, the Cuban Coast Guard has captured four important foreign drug traffickers, carrying 484 kilos of cocaine, as well as other traffickers with similar quantities of marijuana.

The Cuban delegation's report adds that naval vigilance continues despite economic difficulties such as fuel shortages. The report concluded that other services are still operating, such as: the network of technical radio units, the people's watch, and everything connected to a preventive system for the detection of drug trafficking and use.

Journalists Comment at Forum

PY1210120891 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0045 GMT 11 Oct 91

[Text] Santa Cruz de la Sierra (Bolivia), 10 Oct (EFE)—On dedicating the international forum on journalism and drug trafficking, Interior Minister Carlos Saavedra stated today, 10 October, that political, economic, or any other type of power is capable of deciding how information is disseminated.

Present at the forum, at the same time as the fourth meeting of heads of Latin American and Caribbean antidrug organizations, are journalists from Spain, Colombia, Peru, Brazil, and Bolivia, who came at the invitation of the Social Defense Under Secretariat.

"Those who have some knowledge, and have political, economic, or any other type of power, can handle information, and what is more important, they can decide what, when, and how to handle that information, and decide on the addressee of the information," Saavedra said in speaking about a number of topics, among them journalism, democracy, and the antinarcotics struggle.

The first to speak was Manuel Molares, a Spanish journalist from EFE, who proposed a "boycott" against international banks that "launder" money, and those companies that manufacture and distribute without control the chemicals used in manufacturing cocaine and other drugs.

He also proposed continuous denunciations against the wealthy countries which are also consumers of drugs, a price decrease for raw material, and an end to barriers imposed on imports.

Peruvian journalist Jaime de Althaus, from the Lima newspaper EXPRESO, after describing the gloomy situation of the terrorist violence devastating his country, he pointed out the ties between subversive groups and drug trafficking gangs through an exchange of services and the common objective of destroying the state.

Bolivian Erick Foronda warned that "if the greediness with which the Bolivian drug traffickers are producing in the forests of this unpopulated territory remains unchanged, in another five-year term the entire beautiful ecosystem of the Chapare will become an immense, unproductive parcel of land."

The Chapare, a 2.5 million hectare region which opens up to the Bolivian Amazon, is the center for the largest coca production area in the country, which is the raw material for cocaine; 80 percent of this production is earmarked for manufacturing the drug.

Bolivia is the second producer of coca in the world, after Peru, and the second largest world refiner of cocaine hydrochloride, after Colombia.

Cuba

PCC Congress Debates Electoral System

FL1610192991 Havana Radio and Television Networks in Spanish 0130 GMT 14 Oct 91

[Report on highlights of Fourth Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba, PCC, date not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Unidentified delegate] The presidents of the provincial and municipal assemblies should be elected by the delegates. I am saying they should be elected.

[Castro] Oh, elected.
[Unidentified delegate] Yes.

[Castro] And elected from among the delegates.
[Unidentified delegate] From among the delegates. They will not be....

[Castro, interrupting] They will not be all-powerful men.
[Unidentified delegate] No. The resolution establishes....

[Castro] We would not want one of them to disband the party by decree. [laughter]
[Unidentified delegate] Commander....

[Castro, interrupting] I know someone who has disbanded it, and he had not been elected by anyone. The party elected him.
[Unidentified delegate] Commander, the resolution....

[Castro, interrupting] The party elected him and then he went and did away with the party. That is a kind of all-powerful person. We must be careful about all-powerful people, and we must make it so that people must answer, and answer to their peers, and there is no more to be said.
[Unidentified delegate] I agree.

[Castro] You can elect a first secretary, a second secretary, a third secretary, or a secretary general, or a private secretary, or whatever you want to call him. For me, the simpler the names are, the better I like them. The simpler and more modest they are, the better. [words indistinct] I wanted to add a little about this—perhaps I am getting ahead of things—about some concepts. If you (?elect a) party first secretary by direct vote, I want you to tell me what central committee is going to call him to account. He would be an all-powerful man. I remember we discussed such matters once. He would be an emperor, as they have in capitalism. They elect them, and then they do not have to account to anyone.

Because this is a draft resolution, it cannot contain all the ideas [passage indistinct] who nominates them. The important thing is who nominates them, if there is a party. It is very important to clarify all thay because we must have the optimal conditions for discussing with [words indistinct] with the most democratic of the superdemocrats, and show them that our political system is more democratic, because the only political system that can be truly democratic is a socialist one.

They talk about democracy in Greece. In Greece, in a smaller place than this, those who had the right to discuss things—about four people—did so. That was a slave society. [passage indistinct] beginning, because here we did not even do the famous report. That does not mean that it always has to be this way. Under normal conditions, a report can be written with some guidelines, but as I have said, we did not want to set forth views here, have a report saying that we think the best way is for this to be done this way or that way. It is not a time to be drafting steps on how everything has to be done. The congress is not proceeding that way; rather, as until now, and beginning with these topics, and all topics are accepted, we are discussing our points of view and opinions with absolute freedom.

[Unidentified delegate] I suggest and propose that not necessarily....

[Castro, interrupting] You are proposing that the president and the vice president be elected. That is something we discussed a lot until we reached the conclusion... [changes thought] because the tendency not to elect the executive was very strong, but then—and maybe I am jumping ahead in the discussion—we were extremely concerned about what you have said: having two governing bodies in a small municipality, two offices, two buildings, who knows how many people. Who would govern? At those levels what is really needed is one governing office, not two. And I was saying, there can be only one power. We canvassed the comrades on the commission exhaustively. I told them: Comrades, we are going to go crazy, if we have both offices. I said: Which is the top authority? If you have a visitor, to whom do you introduce him, as a representative of the people's government? The one from the assembly or the one from the executive? The mayor or the other one? So we could not find a solution to the problem, beside the great concern about office space, of course.

Then we said: Well, let the president of the executive also be the president of the assembly. That way he would be the only elected one. Some comrades said that sometimes there is no district delegate who has the basic requirements needed to be president of the executive. We discussed those ideas. It is not impossible. We understand the work of the district delegates. They are well-known residents who have a number of tasks. How is it possible to have a municipality where not a single district delegate has the qualifications to become a mayor? Let's call him a mayor, for a joke, right? He is the president of the people's government. Sometimes a person had to be transferred despite the fact that we did not want to involve the party in it as it is one party and it belongs to everyone. We do not want to make any concession that might imply, as a consequence, the existence of a multiparty system [pluripartidismo], because a multiparty system is the same as multigarbage [pluriporqueria]. [laughter]

Because we do not want multigarbage, we have to do things that are compatible with the concept of a single party. We have said that the party does not nominate, but as that mechanism exists.... [changes thought] Do not let go of the telephone [corrects himself] I mean the microphone. What is this? [laughter] We did not want the party to nominate anyone, and today the party does not do that... [rephrases] but since people were thinking about a mayor, it has happened in some provinces that the party has had to move a citizen to a town, look for a house for him, nominate him, and elect him president. Now I say we must [words indistinct] that the mayor of the municipality has to come from that municipality. He must come from that municipality. [applause]

We have to discuss this with a National Assembly in which the majority of the deputies come from the base level. We should have at least one third elected from the base level. In addition, they will have an advantage, because they will know more. There is no risk that the municipality [words indistinct] all the representatives [words indistinct] all the deputies. In my opinion, the law has to set a limit. The municipalities can nominate, from within the municipality or outside the municipality or outside the district. We will probably have to organize some electoral districts. Imagine 500,000 people voting in Santiago de Cuba. It is time to divide this up, for electoral purposes. Because I can imagine a candidate here with half a million inhabitants, holding rallies all over Santiago de Cuba, visiting factories, filling up parks. I do not know if [Esteban] Lazo [party first secretary for Santiago de Cuba] will be nominated. I can imagine him touring the city, [chuckles] in a three-month election campaign.

If we make such changes, we should make it possible to choose throughout the country those people who have knowledge and experience, who will represent the country in the National Assembly. We have to think about other things, as we are doing with the National Assembly. How many people are we making professionals? There were our problems with the famous People's Councils, which are resulting in significant progress in Havana. We should then study.... [changes thought] we have made some district delegates professionals. Look, I have been an enemy of payrolls all my life. I think I have a gene, two genes, maybe 10 genes against payrolls. [laughter] I myself proposed the appropriateness of professionalizing some district delegates, the council presidents. Now there are some that are so large they even have a vice president. We will also have to see in the National Assembly the possible appropriateness of professionalizing some delegates, some deputies. [passage omitted]

We have to save ourselves from many of the tragedies and dramas that bourgeois democracy blames on the lack of bourgeois democracy. We have to make things more sensitive. We have to (?invent) in Havana, because there are municipalities in Havana that have 270,000 inhabitants. It is true that a campaign for deputies among the 270,000 inhabitants is [word indistinct]. That is, if some of the things were to be adopted, I think some of the concerns you have could be avoided. There will be a lot less politicking, or no politicking. There will be a type of election, not by province but by municipality and district.

It is like that in many countries, because there are fewer people. Maybe we can use other forms of publicity. Neither the press nor television can be devoted to the delegates' political campaigns. Comrade Rosalia [Arnaez, a television news announcer] could be nominated somewhere, and she has to be on television every day, even if she does not want to. She has possibilities; she is very well known. I do not know if she has ambitions. [chuckles] Well, you do not know if she might be nominated. But that is not election propaganda. But the means are the biographies, the curriculum vitae. They will not always be present, because in a municipality I imagine six or seven people must be elected. I was asking what the largest municipality was in Havana. I think [words indistinct]. It is much simpler. I wanted to know how many votes they give [words indistinct] how many are selected and how many are not selected, also.

So there are many practical details. We have general ideas about what [words indistinct] but some of your concerns can be resolved now. You say they are waiting. Of course, they are waiting for the municipality to solve the problems. Then they will ask the province and then they will ask the Republic. I was interested in what the comrade from the hospital said, because I understood that there should be a number, that the people should be close to the delegates. This is an issue to be discussed: how many there should be and how many there should not be.

(?I am thinking) only about if they take one from Pinar del Rio and nominate him for Santa Clara Municipality. If a man is not a real cadre, he will not win. If he is not a man with all the merits and all the prerequisites, if he is not capable, our people are very fair. At least the party members are. I do not know about the lumpen, [laughter] those who vote in some municipality out there.

But I have seen how the elections are held in the party, and the votes each person has gotten. It is really impressive to see the extent to which our party members recognize people's merits. It is really impressive. In spite of the fact that the system we chose was this one, in which we voted for 80 percent, the null ballots were not counted. That is, the number of those who chose too many, the number of those who did not vote in order not to choose too many. Right now we have to solve that problem with respect to the election of the Central Committee. I am not going to say anything about how I think we should do that. [passage omitted]

PCC Congress Resolution on Improving Government

FL1610210091 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1255 GMT 16 Oct 91

[GRANMA article on the Fourth Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba, PCC, resolution on improving the

organization and functioning of the people's government bodies, published on 16 October—read by announcer]

[Text] In its analyses, the Fourth PCC Congress confirmed the democratic nature of the system of institutions that comprise the bodies of the people's government. The basic unit of the entire Cuban people's government structure is the district. The concept as well as the operation of the district essentially converge in the person of the delegate, and represent the most legitimate and authentic contributions of our democratic system. While one can cite positive results of the activities of the people's government bodies, there are also problems that negatively affect the effectiveness of their work and the fulfillment of their role and objectives.

In the electoral procedures for selecting delegates for the provincial assemblies and deputies for the National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP], formal conditions exist in the governing documents and in the selection of executive bodies that lessen the authenticity of the process. When the organizing committee of the Fourth PCC Congress was formed at the eleventh plenary session of the Central Committee, a commission, charged with studying ways to improve the people's government bodies, was created. The commission carried out a detailed analysis of the results yielded, by discussion of the basic document for the Fourth PCC Congress, the opinions of the provincial advisory groups which supported the commission, and the experience gained over the years about how to improve those institutions. A list of practical measures, methods, and procedures was suggested, and if those measures are adopted for the operation of the representative governing bodies, the bodies would then become even more participatory and would provide the people a stronger voice.

The Fourth PCC Congress considered that efforts to maintain and develop the valuable experience and contributions of the various people's government bodies acquired over a period of more than 15 years of practical work should take into account, above all, the essential combination of the party's guiding role and the role the people's government groups perform. As a consequence, the Fourth PCC Congress, in view of the considerations stated and the results of the study made by the previously mentioned commission, agreed to submit to the ANPP, among other recommendations, the following:

First, regarding the electoral system and its procedures, keeping in mind the people's political maturity and the experience gained in the various means of participating in the people's government bodies, it is advisable in the current situation for the election of deputies to the ANPP and the election of delegates to the provincial assemblies to be direct. The methods to be used should be studied. The methods should be developed based on the specific conditions of our country and with awareness of other factors.

Also to be examined will be ways to increase the powers of the electoral commissions, with the aim of eliminating the purely formal procedures present in the governing documents of the people's government assemblies and the election of their executive bodies.

Measures enabling the nominating commissions to exercise their powers in a more effective way will be adopted.

In an effort to eliminate obstacles and formalities that limit full exercise of the powers of the assemblies and their delegates, a study will be made to determine whether it is advisable to extend the terms of office for delegates to the municipal and provincial people's government assemblies. Also to be studied will be the possibility of speeding up and making more flexible the processes of dismissing delegates or deputies, and filling the resulting vacancies.

Regulations governing the organization and operation of local people's government bodies will also be examined for any alterations needed to further improve the work of middle- and basic-level leadership and administration.

Possible expansion of deputy and delegate duties will also be explored. It is therefore advisable to decree that duties of deputies and delegates should be carried out regardless of any other posts they may hold. Training should be increased so they can more efficiently carry out their responsibilities. They should be adequately informed about their powers, the status of tasks and plans being carried out in the country or the region, and government efforts in relation to those plans. They should also find ways of getting involved in the problems of the region they represent and with the people they represent so as to increase their knowledge and social awareness of their actions.

The party's work will be to prioritize activities geared toward increasing interaction among the people's government bodies, such as the Young Communists Union, mass, and social organizations, with the aim of deliberately incorporating the people, more and more, into the work of building, consolidating, and defending our socialist society.

They will seek ways and means of increasing the participation of social and mass organizations during the process of nominating delegates to the provincial assemblies and deputies to the ANPP. It is therefore advisable to study the possibility of political, mass, and social organizations choosing potential candidates for the positions from among their members, thereby creating pools from which the candidacy commissions can develop the corresponding drafts.

Finally, the Central Committee has been charged with creating a commission to help it study, analyze, and correctly evaluate information during the complete reorganization process; and draft laws and other organizational measures for reaching the goals presented in this resolution.

Commentary Views Achievements of PCC Congress

PA1510231791 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 1410 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Roberto Morejon commentary]

[Text] The Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] has maintained its dynamism and its ability to guide society, even in times of great adversity. That was confirmed during the Fourth PCC Congress. The meeting approved a package of directives, priorities, and decisions that will serve as the new guidelines for the work of the organization in the future, which will greatly influence national life.

One indication that the process of rectification of errors and negative tendencies in the economic sphere has been a success since it was implemented in 1985, was the fact that the congress ratified the strategy that was adopted at that time. Approximately 1,700 delegates, chosen in a process that was closely observed by all the people, made interesting suggestions and comments regarding the proposed documents to be discussed at the forum. Thus, they enriched the resolutions on the party statutes and program, the recommendations for the better functioning of the branches of the people's government, and the resolution on economic development. This last, one of the most important resolutions—without underestimating the others—calls for precedence to be given to meeting the needs of humanity and preserving the revolution's basic achievements. It states that every family or worker will be guaranteed a basic income and the right of all citizens to a job will be preserved.

That resolution highlights the new, positive concepts that have been introduced, with planning being considered an excellent instrument. The document on economic development also outlines the basic budgets and indicates the direction the island will take during these stormy times.

Cubans did not fail to note the resolution's emphasis on the fact that none of them will be unprotected in the present crisis, which is likely to be aggravated if the current uncertainty persists in trade relations with the USSR. The party congress also considered that possibility when it outlined a strategy for survival and development, the pillars of which are individual and collective effort by Cubans.

Students Rally To Support Fidel, PCC Congress

FL1610125191 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Oct 91

[Text] Another example of reaffirmation of the resolutions of the Fourth Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Congress was the activity held on Tuesday at the University of Havana. Once more, Cuban young people said yes, because this revolution also belongs to the new generations. Thousands of Havana residents reaffirmed in a symbolic vote that there will be no going backwards. Carmen Rosa Baez, the president of the Federation of University Students, expressed what everyone was feeling.

[Begin Baez recording] We are willing, as you were, Fidel, to carry out the revolution at the same age that you started, and with the same passion and confidence with which you did, to consolidate your confidence and your conviction today. Our people have chosen the path of independence, and we will not go backwards. This ballot, which is hanging behind us, symbolizes the vote of Cuban young people.

I want those who vote for the single party system to raise their hands. [crowd cheers, raises hands] Passed.

I want those who vote for socialism to raise their hands. [crowd cheers, raises hands]

I want those who vote for Fidel to raise both hands. [crowd cheers, raises hands] Passed by the new generation of Cubans, who are responsible for the future. [applause] [end recording]

There was a lot of joy and happiness, and they sang for the nation and for optimism.

Panamanian Communists' Solidarity With PCC

PA1210135791 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 1400 GMT 12 Oct 91

[Text] Panamanian communists have stated they are convinced that the work of the Fourth Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba, PCC, in the search for solutions to the problems in Cuba will be successful. The Central Committee of the Panamanian People's Party has sent a letter of solidarity to the delegates of the congress of the Cuban political organization.

Castro Inaugurates Facilities in Santiago de Cuba

FL1610033091 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 16 Oct 91

[Text] Today, Commander in Chief Fidel Castro inaugurated the Santiago Hotel and the Antonio Maceo Airport terminal, important tourist facilities in this heroic city. On both occasions, Fidel was accompanied by Esteban Lazo, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] in Santiago de Cuba, and Maria de los Angeles Garcia, both Politburo members, and other provincial government and PCC leaders. The first secretary of the PCC Central Committee praised the quality and beauty of the [words indistinct] by hundreds of workers on the Santiago Hotel, the first five-star hotel on the island. The facility, built by the members of the Frank Pais contingent, has 309 rooms, of which [words indistinct] of first quality.

At the modern airport, Fidel admired the quality and efficiency of the building, which will accommodate approximately 700 passengers per hour [words indistinct]. Fidel presented recognition certificates to the

workers who excelled in the construction of both facilities. Our commander in chief expressed the country's pride in having individuals capable of creating such marvels. The president of the Councils of State and Ministers emphasized the importance of [words indistinct].

[Begin Castro recording] And right here we can erect a building, right here we can solve problems, from right here we can travel directly even from Finland. I believe sometimes there is a plane from here to Finland. I believe it takes longer to travel from east to west because of the winds. Now Santiago is internationally linked with the whole world; as was said here, thanks to this airport, thanks to this building, thanks to this landing strip. All the conditions necessary for developing this town into a great tourist city have been provided. That is what your construction labor creates. The labor you, hotel workers, helped to complete. The work that you, who serve here, have to carry on. And in this manner, everything we have seen fills us with enthusiasm. We see how the time has been advantageously employed after two years of rectification. We see how the projects are completed. We see how the city changes. [applause] [end recording]

Dissidents Reportedly To Be Tried 16 Oct

PA1610001191 Paris AFP in Spanish 1813 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Text] Havana, 15 Oct (AFP)—Dissident Elizardo Sanchez Santa Cruz stated today in Havana that at least 10 Cuban dissidents arrested last week will stand trial soon. The dissidents are accused of "unlawful association," "aiding and abetting crime," and producing "clandestine publications." Six of the accused belong to the Association for the Defense of Political Rights (Adepo) and four to the Free Art Association (APAL).

Sanchez Santa Cruz, president of the Human Rights and National Reconciliation Commission (CDHRN), noted that Adepo members Reynaldo Bethancourt, Anibal Cruz, and Jorge Julian will be tried on 16 October. CDHRN added that Adepo President Luis Pita Santos and group leaders Lazaro Loretto Perea and Ramon Rodriguez will be tried soon for "demeaning the head of state, clandestine publications, and aiding and abetting crime."

The four APAL members, Omar Lopez Montenegro, Manuel Jesus Leyva, Juan Jualberto Fernandez, and Eduarto Cartas must also face those charges before the courts, Sanchez Santa Cruz stated. The charge of producing "clandestine publications" apparently refers to the publication of a proposal issued a week ago by the "Cuban Democratic Coalition," made up of eight groups, Adepo included. The charge of "aiding and abetting crime" refers to calls for demonstrations in the streets of Havana.

Russia To Strengthen Ties With Latin America

FL1710002191 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2111 GMT 16 Oct 91

[Text] On 16 October, Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev stressed that Russia will seek to strengthen its ties with Latin America in all spheres. This will be done in light of the historic similarities that unite Russia to the area. Kozyrev acknowledged that his ministry had neglected its relations with the Third World, particularly with Latin America, and pointed out that it was not because it is not important, but because of a lack of resources.

Regarding the possibility of opening embassies, in addition to the Soviet embassies, Kozyrev said that the goal is to remodel the already existing embassies and convert them into diplomatic missions that will represent the republics instead of representing the central government.

While speaking of the future of relations with Cuba, the Russian minister stated his optimism in the strengthening of ties between the two countries, and expressed a deep affection toward Cuba, Kozyrev said that this affection remains and will be strengthened.

Parliamentarians Meet With Argentine Legislators

FL1510233091 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2039 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Text] The Cuban parliamentarians who are visiting Buenos Aires have met with their Argentine counterparts to discuss the functioning of the legislative systems of both countries. The Cuban delegation, headed by Ernesto Suarez, secretary of the Cuban National Assembly, met with Eduardo Menem, provisional president of the Argentine Senate and brother of the president of that brotherly nation.

The Cuban parliamentarians ended their stay in Buenos Aires with an exchange of experiences with the members of the Foreign Affairs Bicameral Commission of the Argentine Congress, and members of several political parties. The Cuban delegation departed today for Lima, Peru, where they will meet with legislators of that Andean nation. The objective of the Cuban delegation is to increase its knowledge of the functioning of the legislative branch.

Mexico's Solana Mentions Cuba in San Jose Pact

FL1210195891 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1625 GMT 12 Oct 91

[Text] ANSA, the Italian news agency, has reported that Mexican Foreign Secretary Fernando Solana said that Mexico and Cuba maintain friendly, close, and historic relations. During a news conference with local correspondents, Solana said that including Cuba in the San Jose Pact could be discussed in August. The San Jose Pact is a commercial agreement by which Mexico and

Venezuela provide oil to 10 Central American and Caribbean nations at preferential prices.

Commentary Criticizes Salvadoran Murder Trial

PA0310184591 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0100 GMT 1 Oct 91

["Our America" commentary, read by Manolo Ortega]

[Text] Monsignor Gregorio Rosa Chavez, auxiliary bishop of San Salvador, had every reason to say during his Sunday homily that violence sat in the defendant's seat. We all know that he was referring to the recent trial of eight soldiers who killed six Jesuit priests and two women in November 1989.

It is true that violence sat in the defendant's seat for several days. Violence was brought to trial when subordinates of Colonel Guillermo Benavides Moreno recounted how he had ordered the assassinations. Violence is what the soldiers used when they killed the two women who worked for the Jesuits so that there would be no witnesses. Violence is what still exists in El Salvador and what will continue to exist unless there is a purge of the Armed Forces.

And what about justice? Justice was not completely done. In the trial that many are calling historical because it is the first time that soldiers have appeared before a judge in El Salvador, only Col. Benavides and Lieutenant Yusshy Rene Mendoza were convicted. Those who pulled the trigger were acquitted.

Following orders was not mentioned; however, something similar seems to have worked in the trial. A not very convincing verdict left justice incomplete, granting freedom, not only to a group of assassins but also to the high army command where the order to kill was issued.

It is superfluous to insist—for those who did not see it—that several noncommissioned officers and soldiers of the select Atlacatl Battalion described their connection with the case in very cold terms. They did that during one of three trial sessions broadcast by a Salvadoran television station. Salvadoran political and religious groups have stated that 30 men reportedly participated in the attack. The list was said to include top-ranking officers who masterminded the crime.

Although it is true that—as unusual as it may seem—a group of military assassins was brought to trial in that Central American nation, it is also true that it was a result of the great international pressure exerted on the Salvadoran Government and Army to show the world that something was being done to solve the murder. It is also true, however, that those who wanted and expected justice were disappointed. The main culprits in that political crime remain free.

That once again brings to the forefront the need to purge the Salvadoran Armed Forces. The purge must begin with the untouchables who ordered the Jesuit killings and the daily crimes against helpless peasants and people. The purge and reduction of the Armed Forces will be one of the hot topics of discussion between guerrilla representatives and the Salvadoran Government in mid-October. They will also discuss the possibility of a cease-fire. Unfortunately, the main assassins will be free. Only a thorough purge of the military ranks can prevent new killings.

Civil Aviation Agreement With Bolivia Signed

PA1010143391 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0100 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] The Governments of Bolivia and Cuba have signed an agreement in Havana to normalize bilateral relations in the field of civil aviation. A press note from the Cuban Institute of Civil Aeronautics said the agreement authorizes the airlines of both Cuba and Bolivia to exploit immediately the air transportation services of both countries.

The agreement was signed by Jose Vasquez, deputy secretary of Civil Aviation of the Transportation Ministry of Bolivia, and Colonel Ernesto Gonzalez Jimenez, first vice president of the Cuban Institute of Civil Aeronautics.

UK Delegation Explores Business Opportunities

FL1510145591 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0100 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Text] With the objective of exploring the possibilities of establishing joint business ties, a delegation of British businessmen is visiting Cuba.

[Begin recording] [Hilda Prieto] The commercial mission, organized by the London Chamber of Commerce and Industries, is chaired by Michael Chambers and composed of representatives from 15 prestigious British businesses, primarily from the pharmaceutical field.

The interest of the British businessmen in exploring possible Cuban opportunities to establish joint businesses was expressed during a plenary session in which Mr. Leycester Coltman, ambassador of the United Kingdom, was in attendance. Mr. Chambers, speaking at the session, emphasized the Cuban Government's serious efforts and dedication in trying to achieve positive results in making commercial and technical contacts.

The British delegation will meet with more than 40 Cuban enterprises and organizations throughout the week. Together with directors of the Cuban Chamber of Commerce, they will analyze possible bilateral methods of training marketing [preceding word in English] and commercial advertising specialists. [end recording]

Christians Express Solidarity Against U.S. Embargo

FL0810135891 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Text] Christians from 24 countries have concluded a meeting in the Mexican state of Chiapas in which they expressed that the permanent and inhuman U.S. political and economic embargo against Cuba must be lifted.

A document was approved and signed by the participants of the ninth Oscar Arnulfo Romero international meeting of Christian solidarity with Latin America, which charges that this North American nation reduces the Cubans' opportunities in life.

Galician Chamber of Commerce Signs Agreement

FL2809020091 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0000 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Today, Julio Garcia Oliveras, president of the Cuban Chamber of Commerce, and Antonio Landesa Miramontes, secretary general of the Chamber of Commerce, Industry, and Navigation of Vigo, a Galician province, have signed a cooperation accord between both institutions. The accord establishes the grounds to promote contacts between Galician and Cuban entrepreneurs. A visit from Galician investors is expected in the next few months to further discuss the subject. The delegation of businessmen that is accompanying the president of the Galician Government, Manuel Fraga Iribarne, has reached tourism agreements with their Cuban hosts. After the signing ceremony, Mr. Garcia Oliveras and Mr. Landesa Miramontes emphasized the importance of the document.

[Begin recording] [Garcia] This simple ceremony is the end result of the intense activity displayed by the visiting entrepreneurs. Important issues were discussed, like fishing, transportation, and even agriculture. I believe that this is a new step in the re-encounter between Cuba and Galicia and that Mr. Fragas initiative of visiting Cuba has been the essential element.

[Landesa] I am sure that, evidently, as soon as other Galician Chambers of Commerce become aware of this agreement, they will be interested in joining this agreement. Right now, it does not legally bind other chambers of commerce, but spiritually it is the first step, the first contact to involve all other Galician Chambers of Commerce. [end recording]

* Tourism: Uneasiness Noted, Benefits Described

91CA0230A Havana BOHEMIA in Spanish 9 Aug 91 pp 22-25

[Article by Alberto Pozo]

[Text] I am swimming in the waters of Playa Bonita off Cayo Sabinal, north of Nuevitas, Camaguey, surrounded by 100 km of sand. The horizon stretches from Playa Santa Lucia on the Las Tunas border as far as Cayo Romano and Cayo Cruz on the edge of Ciego de Avila. This is where a tourist empire is being built.

The following thought comes to mind: Tourism in Cuba has given life to 1,600 keys, islets and islands making up our archipelago. Without even considering the main island of Cuba and the Isle of Youth, what already has been provided and what will be provided in the future by these 3,700 square kilometers of small territories scattered around the central core?

They definitely are a gold mine of shelf fish, known and worked by our fishermen through the centuries, and a wellspring of charcoal now threatened with exhaustion. This was their life.

These sleepy keys have suddenly become a source of incalculable wealth through the work and vitality of the tourist industry. But does this magic wand touch only the keys? Not so. Secondary territories, compared with other economic areas of the country, are rising up and walking. Typical cases are the eastern region's southern coast, the northeastern Atlantic Coast and, to give more varied examples, our mountain areas: Organos, Escambray, Cristal, and Maestra are beginning to make the most of tourism relating to health.

Necessary Response

I would pause here to respond to a certain amount of concern voiced by those living in certain areas, particularly Havana. Tourism takes nothing away; rather, it gives and gives much more.

It is a fact that in Ciudad de La Habana, the tourist boom of the past four or five years has resulted in limitations. The same is true of our great urban area of Varadero. In the case of the capital, it has to do with historic reasons. With the triumph of the revolution, the United States imposed a blockade observed almost unanimously and attacked us militarily. In the early years, we were forced to devote our energies merely to surviving. By the 1970's, however, we felt able to begin developing the tourist industry as a source of foreign exchange.

Also in the early years, social justice made it inevitable that we seek housing for the people, on the one hand, although on the other, this meant we could not properly support tourist facilities. Two facts emerged from this dual reality: First of all, a large number of hotels were used to resolve housing problems. Second, our limited resources were focused on agriculture and industry. The rest of the hotels deteriorated, some badly.

In the case of Varadero, it so happened that the number of rooms was inadequate to withstand the combined national and international pressure.

Given these two extremes, the tourist potential from our national population was about 50 percent of our capacity. The solution was an intensive construction and reconstruction plan aimed at expanding accommodations to the maximum extent within the shortest possible time.

In the remaining tourist areas, the national option has always been far greater than international potential, sometimes exceeding 80 percent. Our overall average thus exceeds 60 percent occupation by Cubans.

In order to survive the economic situation in which we now find ourselves, it has been and is now necessary to develop the international tourist industry. In 1989, this business yielded $260 million, with a net profit of $.60 on the dollar. In 1990, the number of visitors was 360,000, bringing in approximately $300 million. Our country's average revenue per visitor is $798, providing the surest avenue open to us in short-range terms and one offering the greatest progressive growth.

Tourism in Camaguey

The ambitious plan concentrates on the northern coast and includes 45,000 rooms. When finished, what will it mean economically?

Let us take a look in terms of dollars and cents. In tourism, a per unit cash flow of $20,000 a year is considered an acceptable rate of return, while a good yield would be $30,000 (we have hotels such as the Internacional in Varadero that do this much business). Anything over this figure is profit paradise.

Adding it all up: 45,000 rooms at $20,000 each will bring in $900 million. To obtain an equal amount in sugar, based on an average market price of $.10 a pound, we would have to produce 4.5 million tons, equivalent to five seasons in Camaguey Province. On a national level, this is double Cuba's export quota on the world market. If we compare this with the country's average tonnage in recent years, Camaguey's plan alone accounts for over half the sugar harvest if sold at the average price of $.10.

One clarification: What is the current situation affecting nationals in Santa Lucia? There are enough facilities and resources to accommodate 20,000 to 30,000 seaside resort-goers, enough to meet demand.

International Business

In Santa Lucia, the international tourist business, which brings in the needed foreign exchange revenue, has Villa Tararaco (31 rooms), the old Nuevitas Yacht Club, Villa Mayanabo (225), and Villa Coral (298), which combine with Villa Maraguan (35) to serve tourist traffic in the city of Camaguey. Villa Caracol is nearly completed and will initially be used to host tourists from a new source country, Holland, starting in November. Other visitors to date have included Canadians, Germans, and Austrians. Villa Tuabaquey is halfway completed. All these facilities belong to the Cubanacan Corporation, whose short-range plans include three more villas. Three more INTUR [National Institute of Tourism] hotels will also start to go up soon. Santa Lucia will in the immediate future increase its capacity to 2,000 and later to 10,000. The plan will subsequently extend to Key Sabinal (15,000 rooms) and Romano (4,000), gradually rounding out the rest of the constructon plan for the keys.

Second Wing

Camaguey City does have hotel facilities that for the time being satisfy tourist and ordinary needs: the Plaza, Gran Hotel, Camaguey, Tayabito, and so on.

However, the other main area of tourism in Camaguey will be the southern keys called the Jardines de la Reina, where facilities will be designed for a more specialized type of tourism. This is also an ideal area for testing the potential offered by tourist cruises, starting with visits to the keys themselves and later extending those trips nationally and internationally. It should be recalled that half of all tourism in the Caribbean involves cruises. On Algodon Grande, a natural wonderland, work is already underway on a 120-room facility, the first phase to include 40 rooms. On the main island, the inlet of Santa Maria has been chosen as the point of contact with the key.

Areas of Specialization

The trend in world tourism is toward specialization. Our most outstanding feature, as a result of the international prestige of our medicine, is tourism for reasons of health. Santa Lucia has its clinic and is in a position to use its natural springs, brine pools, salt water, and mud from the El Real saltworks close to the beach. It can combine its efforts with the Camujiro resort or thermal development at Sabinal.

Other special features include the international scuba diving center, work on which is well underway. Another project is planned for ocean excursions, fishing, and cruises. Other natural options are covered by the plans, such as expeditions to the big caves at Sierra de Cubitas, the Sierra de Najasa petrified forest, and hunting preserves, large and small. Nor has the potential of the historic downtown area and other attractions of Camaguey City been forgotten.

We also wish to devote special attention to the recent cultural-tourist integration in the Santa Lucia area with concerts by the Cuban Opera. A Canadian troupe invited its members to travel to Canada. The existence of such events in Cuba had been a revelation. Winter will see performances of ballet, zarzuela, and the dance. Santa Lucia is destined to become a combined cultural center.

Keeping up with tourist trends caused the area to go beyond completion of its plan in 1990.

Most Important Element

What I believe is the most important feature of the Camaguey tourist industry is the fact that a single, centralized command center makes it possible, by virtue of its overall view, to solve all problems. It is headed by a government official, Manuel Chaos Piedra. The development of tourism involves over 25 institutions, each one responsible for an area of specialization, but part of a general plan and having a systematic conception of overall development.

I think teamwork is the direct cause of the success of tourism in Camaguey and I will give one example: The plan includes a theater. Experts from the different fields

of specialization, cultural as well as architectural, are already meeting. A plan is being drafted—with no plan there can be no project—and will be ready when the time comes.

However, the most important point of the most important aspect does not yet exist: the need to set the tourist industry apart.

Given the conditions of the special period in which we now find ourselves and will continue to find ourselves for some time, even when the times are better, it will be necessary, in order to compete successfully on the international level, to guarantee optimum quality and ensure that the goose that laid the golden egg does not die! Agricultural production must be separated from the rest of the economy: industry, maintenance, supplies, everything, in short!

Differentiation

How is such differentiation to be achieved? International tourism must have its own financing so as not to pose any burden to the national economy and be on the best possible footing in order to turn a maximum profit for the government.

This is nothing new. A number of enterprises are already using their own funds for development and handing over a growing volume of foreign exchange to the government. Such success must extend to the rest of the system. There is more. The so-called zero-option would be the indispensable measure. Let us make the most of our discovery and forge ahead.

We could take advantage of all world trends more rapidly in order to bring in more foreign exchange. Replacing imports, particularly by drawing on the provinces' own resources, would be more feasible, as in the case of Italian construction tile, to name only one. Concerning exports, we must resolve problems within our own borders, in the areas of handicrafts and ready-made items, to give but one example. Financing would be supplied by tourism. Quality must be such that exports could be developed in such areas as furniture and beverages, for example.

Tourism means foreign exchange brought in by visitors, the replacement of imports, and export revenue derived from developing exportable products. It is a driving force that will have a spinoff effect on the economy. Tourism is an international business and must be approached from that angle: a business used to generate foreign exchange revenue.

Haiti

Official List of Cabinet Minister Nominees

FL1710012891 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1900 GMT 16 Oct 91

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Following is the complete official list of new cabinet ministers: Gracia Jean, minister of interior and national defense; Charles Beaulieu, minister of finances and economy; Claude Pierre-Louis, minister of agriculture. Joseph Desir, minister of national education; Joachin Pierre, minister of social affairs and labor; Francois Bouzi, minister of commerce and industry; Marc-Henri Rousseau Francois, minister of public work, transport and communication; Greger Jean-Louis, minister of health; Henri Piquion, minister of information; and Antoine Leconte, minister of justice. No minister of planning and external cooperation has yet been nominated.

The new 12-member cabinet also includes Jean-Jacques Honorat as minister of foreign affairs. The four secretaries of state are: Jean-Robert Simonise, secretary of state at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Marcel Boni, secretary of state at the Ministry of Planning and External Cooperation; Mrs Claudette Gourdet, secretary of state at the Ministry of Social Affairs; and Yves Monchet, secretary of state at the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

The official nomination of the new ministerial cabinet will take place this afternoon at 4 p.m. at the National Palace. Provisional President Joseph C. Nerette will attend the nomination.

Post-Coup Unrest Continues Across Country

Pro-Aristide Demonstration

FL1610222191 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 16 Oct 91

[Excerpts] A demonstration followed a 15 October funeral in the Gonaives cathedral for the seven people killed by soldiers in that city during the country's recent violence. Let us listen to the report of Radio Soleil correspondent Exil Noel Ediles.

[Begin Ediles recording] The bishop of Gonaives, Monsignor Emmanuel Constant, and half a dozen priests performed the joint funeral of Fred Cherisca, Frantz Moise, Pelissier Daphnis, Jean-Pierre Daphnis, and Narcois Audena, five of the seven people killed in Gonaives by the military during the latest events. This funeral was celebrated in the Cathedrale du Souvenir on Tuesday, 13 October, in the presence of several thousand people.

In his message, Father Gerard Dormevil shared the sadness of all whose relative's and friend's recent deaths were caused by the fanaticism and bullets of the forces of darkness and death in Haiti. He urged them not to be discouraged and to hold on because the struggle they are waging is very important for the masses who are slaving away all over the country, especially in Raboteau [Gonaives suburb], La Fossette [Cap-Haitien suburb], and Cite Soleil [Port-au-Prince suburb] to improve their living conditions. Despite our sufferings, and our desires, as expressed in the now broken 16 December elections, we must continue to hope, Father Dormevil said. There is no life without death, there is no Easter Sunday without Good Friday. Thus, the people will inevitably achieve victory. [passage omitted]

It was our observation that many people in civilian clothes carrying suspicious bags were present inside the Cathedrale du Souvenir.

On the way back from the cemetery, several hundred people demonstrated in the streets, hurling abuses at those in power and asking incessantly for Father Jean-Bertrand Aristide's return. 'Democracy or death, Aristide or nothing,' the demonstrators shouted. They said they would refuse to accept a puppet as president and questioned how military men can love the people so much that they intervene in their favor [epi tou kile koukou te renmen frize pou li rele pitit li frizelia]. They asked the OAS and the United Nations to keep exerting pressure until the president father is returned to power. [passage omitted]

A pick-up crowd of khaki-clad military from the Toussaint L'Ouverture Barracks cut across the [word indistinct] carrying heavy weapons. No violence, however, was noted. [end recording]

Former Ministers Asked To Return Arms

FL1610234791 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in French 1736 GMT 16 oct 91

[Text] A communique from the General Headquarters of the Haitian Armed Forces [FADH] asks all former ministers who hold weapons or communication devices belonging to the FADH or the Haitian state to return them to FADH General Headquarters within 48 hours. If they fail to observe this deadline, their files will be sent to the Justice Department for legal proceedings.

House Searches, Arrests Continue

FL1610143691 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 2200 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Text] House searches are still widespread in Port-au-Prince today. The homes of two medical doctors, Robert Jean-Louis and Roudolphe Malebranche were searched by the military. The concerned persons said the military showed great courtesy while searching for firearms.

According to witnesses, Antoine Izemery was beaten during his arrest. [Robert Jean-Louis, Roudolphe Malebranche, and Antoine Izemery are close members of the lavalas movement]

Capital People Leave for Countryside

FL1610185791 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 16 Oct 91

[Text] Port-au-Prince is experiencing a period of calm this week although gunshots are still being heard in several areas in the capital. Most businesses and activities have resumed normal operations but are not operating at 100 percent capacity. Numerous observers think the reason for this is that many of the people, who were living in the capital, have left for the provinces. The same phenomenon is also noted in provincial cities where the people are leaving for the countryside. A great many young people who used to be seen in Port-au-Prince are no longer there. The high cost of living is getting higher and essential items—although they are available on the market—are getting more and more expensive.

Meanwhile, all the political sectors are awaiting the formation of the ministerial cabinet of the new government which resulted from the coup.

Ambassador Suggests Aristide Govern From Exile

FL1610231191 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole in Creole 16 Oct 91

[Text] Jean Casimir, Haitian ambassador to the United States, believes that ousted President Jean-Bertrand Aristide can reshuffle his government while remaining abroad for some time if the parliament acknowledges him as legitimate president. Casimir said it is not necessary for Father Aristide to be physically present in the country. During an exchange with journalists, the ambassador said that the coupists have been supported financially by drug and weapons traffickers, which will allow them to hold out for 15 days against the commercial embargo. Later, Casimir added, there will be complete disorder.

Private Sector, Government View Embargo

FL1710005791 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 16 Oct 91

[Text] The new members of the government met with representatives of the private sector on 15 October at the National Palace to discuss the situation of the country. The discussion addressed the need for the private sector's support of the government in an effort to solve the current crisis.

Prime Minister Jean-Jacques Honorat, from the beginning, asked the private sector to actively join attempts by the public sector to persuade the OAS and other international organizations to lift the embargo.

The private sector representatives assured the government of their complete cooperation, and promised to do all in their power to suppress the embargo, the consequences of which threatened to be disastrous, especially for low wage earners and the unemployed.

This meeting also presented the opportunity for members of the private sector to discuss the obstacles they face in the normal running of their enterprises, among them, the unfair competition created by smuggling, and the unfair tax system enforced by the customs service.

Morocco's Filali Conducts State Visit 9-10 Oct

Cooperation Agreement Signed

LD1110074891 Rabat Moroccan Kingdom Radio Network in Arabic 1300 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] Yesterday in Mexico, Abdellatif Filali, minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperation, and Mexican Foreign Relations Secretary Fernando Solana signed a framework agreement for commercial, cultural, scientific, and technical cooperation between Morocco and Mexico.

During the signing ceremony, the two sides gave prominence to the spirit of friendship and cooperation which characterizes the bilateral relations, as well as the identical views of the two countries on regional and international issues.

Abdellatif Filali arrived yesterday in Mexico on an official two-day visit in reply to an invitation from Fernando Solana.

In an arrival statement, Mr. Filali stressed the importance of dialogue among states on issues raised in the international arena during this period of rapid and deep changes. The states of the south will have to support each other to confront these changes.

Mr. Filali said that this visit will give impetus to the bilateral cooperation launched in February 1990 during the official visit Mr. Solana paid to Morocco. In a statement to the Mexican news agency, Mr. Filali stressed the importance of the potential volume of commercial exchange provided by Morocco and Mexico, whether in the framework of bilateral or multilateral exchanges.

Mr. Filali also held a meeting with representatives of the Council of Mexican Employers for International Affairs, during which the two sides reviewed the means of consolidating economic cooperation between Morocco and Mexico.

Abdellatif Filali is scheduled to hold discussions today with the secretary of energy, mines and parastate industry, and the secretary of finance and public credit, as well as meet with the permanent committee of the Mexican legislature.

Meets Salinas; Concludes Visit

LD1210080691 Rabat MAP in English 1242 GMT 11 Oct 91

[Text] Mexico, Oct 11 (MAP)—Moroccan Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Abdellatif Filali was received here Thursday [10 October] by President Carlos Salinas de Gortari. Filali who wound up Thursday a two day state visit to Mexico also conferred with the Finance Minister Petro Aspe Armella on the two countries' experience in matters of privatization and on cooperation prospects in the field of economy and investments. Cooperation prospects were also examined by Filali and the minister of energy, mining and industry as well as with the members of the Mexican Employers' Council for International Affairs. Wednesday, Filali and his Mexican peer Fernando Solana concluded a draft economic, commercial, scientific and cultural cooperation accord, the first ever between Morocco and Mexico. The accord provides for the consolidation of political dialog and high-level concentration [word as received], upgrading of trade exchange and cooperation in maritime fisheries, agriculture, tourism, renewable energies and technology transfer. Under the accord, the two sides will promote exchange of expertise in matters of health, natural resources management and environment protection. A joint commission chaired by the foreign ministers was set up. It will meet alternatively in Morocco and Mexico to define the broad lines of bilateral political, economic, technical, scientific and cultural cooperation.

Filali gave Thursday afternoon at the diplomatic studies center here a lecture on Morocco's position in the world and stands on various topical issues. He dwelt on the Kingdom's privileged geographic situation between the old and new world and at the gates of Africa, the Arab world and Europe. This situation, combined with the country's civilization and multi-faceted culture make of Morocco a privileged interlocutor of Latin American people who were marked by the impact of the Arab-Islamic civilization through Andalusia, Filali said. Filali who explained Morocco's relations with the EEC, the Arab Maghreb and Africa answered a number of questions on the projected referendum in the Sahara, the Moroccan northern enclaves of Ceuta and Melilla that are still under Spanish rule, Morocco's stand on the embargo against Iraq, the ongoing peace moves in the Middle East and immigration problems.

San Luis Potosi PRI Governor Resigns 9 Oct

PA1010202891 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1516 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] San Luis Potosi, Mexico, 10 Oct (NOTIMEX)—San Luis Potosi State Governor Fausto Zapata Loredo has resigned. This is the second resignation in a little over a month by a state governor who was elected in August.

Zapata Loredo resigned on 9 October, 14 days after assuming his post, "to avoid risking the San Luis Potosi community's possibilities of peaceful coexistence."

This is the second resignation registered among the seven state governors elected during the August process that was swept by the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI).

Ramon Aguirre Velazquez, who was elected governor of the central Guanajuato State, assumed office but resigned on 29 August "to maintain peace in the state."

In both cases—Aguirre Velazquez and Zapata Loredo—the opposition charged that there had been irregularities

in the election and staged massive demonstrations against the elected governors.

In Guanajuato, an interim governor, who will call for new elections, was appointed. The same situation could come up in San Luis Potosi.

In modern Mexican history, the opposition has only won the current governorship of Baja California, one of the 31 Mexican states, northeast of this capital.

Zapata argued that his resignation was to provide a political solution to the problems the state is experiencing. He stressed the honesty and the constitutionality of the elections that had awarded him the governorship.

Zapata's resignation sparked protests among PRI local sympathizers, but was a joyful event for members of the opposition San Luis Potosi Civic Front, comprised of the National Action Party, the Party of the Democratic Revolution, and of the Mexican Democratic Party.

The Civic Front of Potosi had backed Zapata's main rival, Salvador Nava Castillo, who embarked on a protest march from San Luis Potosi (426 km north of this capital) to Mexico City on 28 September.

"I will not stop my march until the resignation is official," Nava said when he learned that Zapata's decision will be analyzed during a special session called the local congress called for 10 October.

Fausto Zapata governed the San Luis Potosi State for 282 hours. He attended to his duties from the Government Palace for six hours, because a sitdown strike staged there by women supporting Nava prevented him from reaching his office.

Belize

Communique After Talks With Guatemalan Mayors

FL1610124391 Bridgetown CANA in English 2117 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Text] Belize City, Oct 15, CANA—Calls for a peace park and more interchange between Belize and the El Peten region of Guatemala were made at the first ever meeting of mayors from both sides of the border of the Central American states.

"The Corozal Declaration," a seven point communique issued after the meeting in Corozal town on Sunday, urged the two governments to take action to increase the flow of people, goods, and services across the border so as to promote economic and social development. The meeting came as relations continue to warm between the two countries, long at loggerheads because of Guatemala's century old claim to Belizean territory.

The meeting backed ideas for a park for peace to be established in the forest in the border region between Belize, Guatemala, and Mexico. The park would be a nature reserve and also protect the unique Maya archaeological and cultural heritage of the area. Belize Deputy Prime Minister Florencio Marin said future meetings would play a key role to promote cooperation in trade, tourism, and other areas.

In a message aimed at right wing political opinion in Guatemala the mayors said they fully supported the efforts of President Jorge Serrano to solve the Belize/Guatemala dispute. "We equally request of the Guatemalan people their understanding towards the aspiration of Belizeans to live in peace and fraternity with their neighbours, as a fundamental necessity to promote their development," said the communique.

The mayors said they applauded the British Government's decision to support financially the development of a road network through Belize to give Guatemala access to the Caribbean Sea. The communique said a follow up commission of mayors and government officials had been established to continue talks between both sides. They said they would apply to United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation for help in supporting the commission.

Twelve mayors from El Peten towns met with their counterparts from the Belize border towns of Corozal, Benque Viejo del Carmen, and Punta Gorda. Representing the Belize Government were Marin, Minister of Local Government Valdemar Castillo, and Minister of State for Education Vildo Marin.

El Salvador

Reportage on Government-FMLN Talks in Mexico

FMLN Proposes 'Informal' Cease-Fire

PA1510014191 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1647 GMT 14 Oct 91

[Report by Jose Antonio Torres]

[Text] Mexico City, 14 Oct (EFE)—Rebel "commander" Jorge Shafik Handal announced that on 14 October the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) spoke in favor of a cease-fire in the Salvadoran armed conflict "to preserve the New York Agreement."

Handal, head of the FMLN's negotiating commission, said that an informal cease-fire "is necessary for El Salvador" because it means "defending the agreement in the only field they can be destabilized: the military."

President Alfredo Cristiani's government and FMLN delegates began a new round of talks on 12 October to try to put an end to the civil war that has killed more than 75,000 people in 11 years.

Handal said it "makes no sense to allow military operations to continue when the only thing pending is to consolidate peace."

"That is why the FMLN proposes to start a cease-fire now," Handal said. "It was agreed in the Geneva Accord to end the (formal) clashes with extensive regulations that specify what can be done and what cannot be done" at this point in the negotiations.

"This informal cease-fire would be a framework to continue negotiating, a framework to comply with the agreement. Then negotiations end."

"Even though it is not a dynamic cease-fire, with a date, the measures that guarantee it are complied with in the field, and until the cease-fire becomes established the agreement are applied," the guerrilla commander said.

"What the FMLN now proposes is that, without having to wait for this, we stop shooting, we stop fighting. No more fighting on land, in the air, anywhere, or in the cities," Handal said.

The commander explained the nuances between the definite cease-fire as defined in the Geneva and Caracas agreements and the FMLN's new proposal.

"In the Caracas accord the basic idea was to first reach political agreements and then stop the armed clashes, which means that we first had to analyze seven topics and afterward put into effect a cease-fire," Handal explained.

"This negotiation was proposed in two stages: first to reach agreements at a fundamental level on those seven political topics, end the armed clashes, and then to

continue negotiating for this to end in agreements for a definite end to the war," Handal added.

The guerrilla leader stated that in New York the negotiations became a "compressed scheme, not because they had fewer topics, but because it is a single stage, which means a change in the nature of the cease-fire.".

Handal asked for an informal cease-fire, with fewer requirements, to be overseen by the United Nations.

"There could, for example, be UN officers in command posts on both sides in the field to observe that neither side takes part in military operations," Handal explained.

Handal added that "measures would have to be agreed on to gradually separate the forces and reestablish the government in large areas of the country where they are not working."

"The informal cease-fire is a measure that will help the displaced population return and resettle in their original homes. These are not military, but social measures," Handal said.

Government Denies Knowledge of Proposal

PA1610233391 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 14 Oct 91 p 11

[Report by Ismael Beltran]

[Text] Mexico City—Salvadoran Government and Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] delegates will start the search for a final agreement on the thorny Armed Forces issue in an effort to put a definitive end to the armed confrontation in El Salvador.

Dr. Oscar Santamaria, who heads the government delegation, said the preliminary discussion of the agenda on 12 October was successful because it was held in a climate of cordiality and respect.

Santamaria denied any plans to discuss an "informal cease-fire." He said the government is seeking a definitive cessation of the war, which is the principal point on the agenda. "What may happen to a cease-fire as a result of the discussions remains to be seen," he said.

There were many contradictions in the remarks made by the FMLN delegates, Santamaria, and UN representative Alvaro de Soto. For instance, while Shafik Handal said the Armed Forces topic was nearly exhausted, Santamaria said several things remain to be discussed. Some FMLN delegates said they had proposed an "informal cease-fire," an assertion Santamaria said he did not know about officially. Asked about this "informal cease-fire," De Soto also said he did not know about the proposal and pointed out that the agenda must be adhered to.

The talks between the government and the FMLN are being held on the 10th floor of one of Mexico City's most exclusive hotels. Meanwhile, local and foreign journalists wait in the hotel lobby for some delegate to come down and report on the progress of the meeting. So far, it is the FMLN representatives who have talked with the reporters most. This concerns journalists because they have only one side of the story.

Government, UN, and FMLN sources agree that the meeting will continue until the majority of topics are debated and that, for this reason, the meeting will last at least 10 days.

Modesto Ramirez Front Issues Communique

PA1610234091 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1230 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Text] The Modesto Ramirez Front's urban groups issued a communique this morning stating that the current phase of negotiations, which follows the signing of agreements in New York, is a revolutionary change in line with the Front's own program.

The Front states that urban warfare and National Army for Democracy raids in the cities constitute defensive actions and are a response to desperate operations by the army, an army that is being questioned at the negotiating table, an army that faces the prospect of being purged, reduced, and forced to abolish its repressive forces.

The communique adds: This erroneously leads the army to try to show it is strong and in control of our area. It is ridiculous to attempt to achieve this objective in only a few days when it has been unable to do so for years.

With the beginning of a new round of talks in Mexico City between the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] and the National Republican Alliance government, the Modesto Ramirez Front urban groups express our full support for the FMLN's negotiating team and tell our people that we are willing to accept all agreements reached during this meeting, certain that they will guarantee the beginning of political openness and true democracy in our country.

[Signed] Modesto Ramirez Front

[Dated] San Salvador, 15 October 1991

Agreement of National Commission for Peace Signed

PA1710040291 San Salvador DIARIO LATINO in Spanish 12 Oct 91 p 4

["Text" of the initial agreement of the National Commission for the Consolidation of Peace, signed by representatives of the Salvadoran Government, the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, and political parties represented in the Legislative Assembly; in Mexico City on 11 October]

[Text] Representatives of the Salvadoran Government, the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN], the Christian Democratic Party [PDC], the

Nationalist Republican Alliance [ARENA], the National Conciliation Party [PCN], the National Democratic Union [UDN], the Authentic Christian Movement [MAC], and the Democratic Convergence Coalition [CD], which is composed of the National Revolutionary Movement, the Social Democratic Party, and the Popular Social Christian Movement, met in Mexico City on 10 and 11 October 1991. They met on the basis of Chapter I of the New York Agreement, which was signed by the government and the FMLN on 25 September 1991, entitled "National Commission for the Consolidation of Peace" [Copaz] and the stipulations contained in point number six, paragraph A, of that same chapter, which reads:

"Two government representatives, including a member of the Armed Forces, two FMLN representatives, and one representative from each political party represented in the Legislative Assembly will work together to prepare a special, temporary operating system for the period between this agreement and the cease-fire. The aforementioned representatives must also prepare a bill to formalize Copaz."

The representatives have reached the following political agreement:

I. The Copaz Temporary Phase

Copaz is formed as a result of the New York Agreement that was signed between the government and the FMLN under the auspices of the United Nations. It will have two clearly defined phases. The first phase will start with the signing of this agreement and continue until the cease-fire agreement is signed. The second phase will start as soon as it is formally implemented.

This agreement refers to the first phase, entitled the Copaz Temporary Phase.

This temporary commission is a mechanism for society to participate in the process of changes resulting from the negotiations, and to ensure that the parties will comply with the political agreements made. The commission will establish the specific attributes for each of the mentioned agreements.

II. Arrangement

a. The parties or coalitions that form the commission will appoint a representative and an alternate.

b. The government will have two representatives and one alternate who will not have the right to speak.

c. The FMLN will have two representatives and one alternate who will not have the right to speak.

d. The representatives will have the right to vote and the alternates will only have the right to speak. [sentence as published] The latter will only be able to vote if he is substituting for the representative of his party or coalition.

e. The Copaz temporary phase was installed with the following representatives:

For the government. Representatives: Colonels Juan Antonio Martinez Varela and Mauricio Ernesto Vargas.

For the FMLN. Representatives: Commanders Francisco Jovel and Joaquin Villalobos.

For the PDC. Representative: Fidel Chavez Mena. Alternate: Gerardo Le Chevalier.

For the CD. Representative: Victor Manuel Valle. Alternate: Ruben Zamora.

For the PCN. Representative: Ciro Cruz Zepeda. Alternate: Rafael Machuca.

For MAC. Representative: Guillermo Guevara Lacayo. Alternate: Not yet appointed.

For ARENA. Representative: Armando Calderon Sol. Alternate: Francisco Guerrero.

For the UDN. Representative: Mario Aguinada. Alternate: Norma Guevara.

f. The members of the commission: the parties involved and the political parties that have already been mentioned; they may change their representatives or establish rotational mechanisms if they so choose. The participation of political parties or coalitions is based on the results of the 10 March 1991 elections.

III. Decisions

The commission will make decisions by majority. An effort will be made for decisions to be reached through a consensus.

IV. Attributes in the Copaz Temporary Phase

a. The commission will not have executive powers because it is up to the parties involved to implement the peace agreements by means of their internal mechanisms.

b. The commission must be consulted by the parties involved before making decisions or taking measures relating to the peace agreements already signed. If there is a discrepancy on whether a matter must be submitted to the commission, the latter will decide.

c. The commission can consult the sides, at the highest level, whenever the commission deems it necessary.

d. The commission will convene immediately and its opinion be heard whenever at least three of the commission members request such a meeting. In this context, commission members are meant to be the government, the FMLN, parties, and coalitions.

e. The commission will be empowered to make all types of recommendations regarding the fulfillment of the signed peace accords and to make public such fulfillment.

f. The commission will be empowered to prepare the legislative drafts required to develop the accords reached.

g. The commission will be empowered to supervise the fulfillment of the accords reached by the sides when the sides have agreed on such fulfillment.

h. The commission will be in charge of preparing the necessary legislative drafts so that all war disabled and all relatives of the fighters who fell in combat on both sides can be incorporated into the state's social benefits system or can receive an adequate monetary compensation as stipulated by law.

i. In compliance with its functions, the commission will be empowered to address itself to the appropriate UN agencies through the UN secretary general.
j. The commission will be fully empowered to organize its activities the way it deems best and to designate any groups or subcommissions the commission may regard as useful for its purpose, for which the commission will have its own budget.
k. The commission will be in charge of preparing the draft that will legally create it. The commission will also draft its own internal statutes and outline its administrative structure and budget.
l. The commission will be governed by the following rules of confidentiality.
—What the government, the FMLN, or the United Nations might report on during the negotiations.
—What might be said in the commission regarding either the stands or the participation of the delegates or any incident during the sessions.
—What the commission might define as confidential.
—The commission members pledge both to avoid negative disputes on peace and to treat all matters in a positive way. This will apply particularly to the commission's relations with the media.

V. Duration
The peace commission's temporary phase will end as soon as the existence of the commission is legally established and the second stage agreed on in the New York Agreement begins.

VI. International Guarantees
They will be those established in the New York Agreement, namely:
a. The creation of the peace commission will be expressly supported by the resolution to be issued by the Security Council on the peace accords.
b. The secretary general will keep the Security Council informed of the activities and effectiveness of the commission.
c. The commission will be supported by those governments that are in a position to provide effective support both for the guarantee required by the accords and for the actions of the commission. In particular, the cooperation of those governments will be outlined and accomplished in such a way that they can contribute to the purposes of the peace accords and their full accomplishment.

VII. The Operation of the Commission and the Continuity of Its Work
a. The next meeting will be held on 25, 26, and 27 October.
b. It was agreed to initiate debate of the following subjects in the next meeting:
1. Operation during the commission's temporary phase.
2. Internal statutes in effect during the commission's temporary phase.
3. A draft bill dealing with the legal creation of the commission.
4. A list of the accords of the negotiation that will be the object of the commission's work during the temporary phase.
5. Budget.
6. A list of and criterion to be used in the debates of social benefits for war disabled and the relatives of the fighters of both sides who fell in combat.
7. Guidelines for the discussion of the civilian national police subject.
c. To ensure an adequate discussion of these subjects, the work was distributed among the commission members, who pledged to submit the corresponding working documents.

VIII. Final Statement
All of the commission members recognize that the peace process is essentially a political one. Therefore, the polarization of stands according to political inclinations or the parties trying to profit from the process to the detriment of the nation's interest should be avoided.

Mexico City, 11 October 1991.

Signed by Colonel Juan Martinez Varela and Colonel Mauricio Ernesto Vargas in the name of the Salvadoran Government; Commander Joaquin Villalobos and Commander Francisco Jovel in the name of the FMLN; Dr. Fidel Chavez Mena and Gerardo Le Chevalier in the name of the PDC; Dr. Armando Calderon Sol and Dr. Jose Francisco Guerrero in the name of ARENA; Dr. Victor Manuel Valle and Ruben Zamora in the name of the CD; Ciro Cruz Zepeda and Jose Rafael Machuca in the name of the PCN; Dr. Guillermo Guevara Lacayo in the name of the MAC; and Mario Aguinada and Norma Guevara in the name of the UDN.

Parties Comment on Agreement

PA1410031191 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 12 Oct 91

[Text] Upon returning to the country after three days of talks between the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] and government representatives, opposition party leaders commented on the installation of the temporary phase of Copaz [National Commission for Consolidation of Peace] in Mexico.

Legislative Assembly Vice President Ruben Zamora acknowledged the consensus that exists among the political parties and explained that talks concerning the installation of the second phase of Copaz will continue on 25 October. He expressed his confidence that this will contribute to the peace process. Christian Democratic Party Secretary Fidel Chavez Mena also expressed satisfaction with the final agreements.

[Begin recording] [Zamora] The topics were: first, Copaz' internal organization in this temporary phase; second, the law that creates the second phase of Copaz; and third, [words indistinct] functions, particularly those referring to the new National Civilian Police, the war

disabled on both sides, and the preparation of all the bills that may be necessary for the progress of the negotiations.

[Chavez Mena] Copaz will supervise those agreements related to the peace process; will prepare legislative bills, many of which will be on the implementation of the agreements; and, of course, will contribute enormously to peace, democratic freedom, and the country's economy. [end recording]

Norma Guevara, leader of the National Democratic Union [UDN], and Victor Valle, secretary of the National Revolutionary Movement [MNR], agreed that the accords to install the temporary phase of Copaz have ensured a favorable atmosphere for the government and the guerrillas to reach a cease-fire agreement during the negotiations that will resume in Mexico on 12 October.

[Begin recording] [Guevara] We have an appropriate atmosphere for the negotiations that both sides will initiate in Mexico on 12 October. I hope that they will soon reach substantive agreements on the topics on the negotiations' condensed agenda.

[Valle] I had the audacity to predict that we would reach a cease-fire in 1991. I am more certain now that this will happen. [end recording]

The agreement on the installation of the transitory phase of Copaz undoubtedly has been a positive development in the talks to end the conflict. The steps taken by the political parties along the path to pacification should now be taken by the protagonists of the conflict so that this new meeting will end with a pledge to de-escalate the war.

Roundup of Recent Government-FMLN Fighting

PA1510220891

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports from various media on fighting between Salvadoran Army troops and rebels from the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, FMLN.

San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish on 7 October on page 7 reports that "approximately 200 guerrillas attacked the El Marquezado coffee processing plant 2 km from Santiago de Maria in Usulutan" and set it on fire at 2130 GMT on 5 October. It cites the Armed Forces Press Committee, COPREFA, which discloses that the fire "completely destroyed the storage rooms containing a large quantity of coffee ready for export."

(Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador at 0000 GMT on 8 October reports that the FMLN's National Army for Democracy, END, soldiers "raided the Dolores and Carmenza neighborhoods in San Miguel 3 km from the 3d Infantry Brigade headquarters, conducted political activities at San Jorge and San Rafael Oriente, took control of a section of the highway between Zacatecoluca and San Vicente, and sabotaged the Marquezado and Canela coffee processing plants."

It also reports that END soldiers attacked enemy positions located at the entrance and cemetery of Perquin at 0530 GMT on 5 October and that they attacked enemy positions at the Perquin school on 6 October. It adds that "in response to the actions conducted by the undemocratic Armed Forces against our territories," END soldiers clashed with Military Detachment No. 3 and Conchagua Battalion troops in El Salitre community, Puertas Viejas canton, Anamoros jurisdiction, La Union Department at 1600 GMT on 6 October. Casualty figures in these clashes are unknown, the rebel announcer stated.

The report adds END soldiers inflicted seven casualties, including a radio operator, on the 4th Infantry Brigade in Chalatenango during an ambush staged at 1235 GMT on 7 October. "In response to the Armed Forces aggression against Guazapa hill, which is controlled by the FMLN, END soldiers inflicted four casualties on the Bracamonte Battalion at the Platanares Canton school, Suchitoto, Cuscatlan Department at 2200 GMT on 6 October," the FMLN station claims.

(Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador at 0000 GMT on 8 October gives the following summary of war reports it has received: "We have inflicted 36 casualties on enemy troops, 21 of those on the elite Bracamonte Battalion on Guazapa hill, during rebel attacks on and clashes in El Zapote and Platanares cantons in Suchitoto, Cuscatlan Department. These battles were strong and started at 1600 GMT on 8 October and were still continuing at 2330 GMT. We inflicted another seven casualties on 4th Infantry Brigade troops during a guerrilla ambush in Tejutla in western Chalatenango. The 2d Infantry Brigade sustained four casualties during two guerrilla attacks in areas located in the Aguas Calientes jurisdiction, Chalatenango Department. Our men also inflicted three more casualties on the National Guard during an urban commando attack in Atlacatl neighborhood in San Salvador, and we inflicted one more casualty on Belloso Battalion in Perquin, Morazan Department."

(Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador at 0000 GMT on 9 October reports that END artillery soldiers attacked an Army communications base with 82-mm grenades and machinegun fire at El Roblar, Guazapa hill, on 7 October. The report adds: "The communications base was extensively damaged, a great quantity of communications equipment was destroyed, several antennas were toppled, and the enemy sustained several serious casualties."

The report continues: END soldiers also "inflicted eight casualties, three dead and five wounded, on the Bracamonte Battalion at La Mora in El Zapote at 2100 GMT on 7 October." It adds that END troops fought for five hours with 4th Infantry Brigade soldiers at La Cumbre, La Palma jurisdiction on 8 October. "During these clashes we inflicted five casualties on the enemy." The station gives a last-minute report indicating that END

soldiers attacked two Bracamonte companies in La Mora, El Zapote on 9 October and inflicted six casualties on the enemy.

San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish on page 2 of its 9 October issue cites Defense Ministry reports revealing that "eight terrorists and five soldiers were killed during armed clashes" in Los Caceres, Cuscatlan, in La Palma; in Tejutla, Chalatenango; and in Santiago Maria, Usulutan.

San Salvador DIARIO LATINO in Spanish on page 2 of its 9 October issue discloses that "END soldiers occupied Santa Clara on the morning of 9 October and claimed responsibility for the attack on a 5th Infantry Brigade position in Apastepeque, San Vicente on the night of 8 October." The newspaper quotes statements by END Major Ernesto Maldonado, who is one of the commanders at the 4th guerrilla region of San Vicente. He reports attacks on 15 September Battalion troops during the past 15 days and adds that "the enemy sustained nine casualties."

San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish at 0300 GMT on 10 October reports that an FMLN attack on the Apastepeque municipal offices in San Vicente on the night of 9 October left "two people dead." It adds that COPREFA reported three guerrillas had been killed during a clash with 2d Infantry Brigade soldiers in Aguascalientes, Chalatenango on 9 October.

(Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador at 0000 GMT on 10 October carries approximately 15 minutes of FMLN battle activities. It starts out by noting that "END columns have kept San Jose de Las Flores neighborhood in Apopa under control since the early morning hours." It is reported that there has been heavy fighting with enemy troops in the area. The report adds that "END forces clashed with 1st Infantry Brigade soldiers on the road to Quezaltepeque near the Angel Sugar Mill. It was confirmed that the enemy sustained many casualties."

The station also reports that "at 0500 on 9 October the END began attacks on several Belloso Battalion positions on the outskirts of Perquin. Fighting lasted four hours. The Belloso positions that were attacked are El Rastro, Perquin hill, the northern part of the town, and the Belloso Command Post." As a result of the attack, it continues, eight casualties were inflicted on the enemy.

On 9 October, it further notes, "END units clashed with a Lenca Battalion Company of Military Detachment No. 4 in Sociedad." Casualties: one soldier.

At 0800 on 9 October enemy troops arrived at Lolotique, which had been seized by the END, and fighting ensued, resulting in two enemy soldiers killed. "We had no problems," the FMLN station notes.

It adds: "At 0600 on 9 October END fighters attacked Bracamonte Battalion troops in La Asuncion, Suchitoto, Cuscatlan Department. Three casualties were inflicted on the enemy. We had no problems."

The station adds that at 0900 on 8 October END commando units "attacked the Apastepeque Command in San Vicente." There were two enemy casualties as a result of this attack.

The military reports segment adds the following announcement: "Arce Battalion left northern Morazan Department a few hours ago. As soon as the oligarchy's coffee processing plants were attacked, the Arce Battalion was pulled out of Morazan and sent to Usulutan to die. Comrades, let's keep playing ping pong with the enemy battalions and defending our territory."

The station concludes its military reports: "We have a report from the country's central region. Attention: END has inflicted 39 casualties in northern San Salvador. At 0530 on 9 October, guerrillas carried out the following operations: the seizure of San Jose Las Flores, Apopa jurisdiction, and a stretch of the Northern Trunk Highway. The enemy did not show up until 0915, when fighting ensued with our forces. We inflicted 14 casualties on the 1st Infantry Brigade. Fighting continued as we drafted this report. There was also an ambush on a 1st Infantry Brigade convoy on the Apopa-Quezaltepeque road near El Angel bridge. The truck was completely destroyed and fell into Tomayate River. There are 25 confirmed casualties. With this action, END fighters greet the 11th anniversary of the founding of the FMLN."

Regarding the latest report, Panama City ACAN in Spanish at 1828 GMT on 10 October cites a COPREFA report on the same attack. According to COPREFA, six 1st Infantry Brigade members were killed and 14 were wounded in the ambush. The report notes that "at least 15 people died and 44 were wounded in El Salvador in the past 24 hours in fighting between the Army and the guerrillas." COPREFA adds that three rebels were killed and three soldiers wounded in fighting in San Jose Las Flores on 9 October. It further discloses that there was one dead soldier, another six wounded, plus 10 wounded rebels "during prolonged fighting in San Buenaventura, Usulutan Department, on 9 October."

(Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador at 0000 GMT on 11 October broadcasts five minutes of battle reports that include a report stating that "five casualties were inflicted on Military Detachment No. 6 by END forces in a successful ambush on 10 October." The action took place in Armenia jurisdiction, Sonsonate.

A second report says that "on 11 October at 0930, urban commandos of the END attacked the militarized electric substation in the northern region of San Salvador." The commandos reported "inflicting two casualties upon the National Police."

The clandestine station also reports that "at 0800 on 10 October END units ambushed a military truck while

traveling from El Paraiso to Amayo Junction." The rebels used two mines, inflicted four casualties on the 4th Infantry Brigade, and partially destroyed the truck. A report from San Miguel says that END units "waged a rifle attack on a 3d Infantry Brigade Leon Battalion post "injuring three soldiers in a 30-minute battle."

The Modesto Ramirez Front of the END in Cinquera reports that for the second consecutive day they have controlled a section of the Suchitoto-Puente Las Guavas and "fought with two enemy units of Military Detachment No. 5." Four casualties were reported in the fighting.

San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish at 0300 GMT on 11 October broadcasts a two-minute report that says "armed clashes between the Army and the guerrillas in various parts of the country have caused at least 24 casualties." The report adds that "military sources confirmed the death of seven soldiers and 10 rebels in fighting in Chinameca, San Buenaventura, Lolotique, and Perquin."

San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish on 12 October on page 4 in a 200-word report states that COPREFA has reported that in fighting on the outskirts of Ciudad Barrios in San Miguel, "one rebel was killed and four were wounded, along with one soldier who was killed and four who were wounded."

The article continues by stating that the 4th Infantry Brigade has reported fighting in La Rastra, Concepcion Quezaltepeque, and in Santa Rita in Chalatenango Department. "In the fighting the FMLN suffered nine casualties: two dead and seven wounded soldiers."

San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish at 0300 GMT on 12 October carries a two-minute report that says that before dawn "the guerrillas attacked the town of Cuscatancingo causing damage to the installations of the National Telecommunications Administration, a church, and a home." No casualties were reported.

(Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador at 0000 GMT on 12 October carries several reports on fighting between rebels and government forces. One report says that after taking control of a portion of the Paraiso-Chalatenango highway, "fighting broke out with a 4th Infantry Brigade company." The rebels confirmed four casualties; one soldier was killed and three wounded.

A second report says that "END rebels fought with Military Detachment 5 units on the outskirts of Tenancingo, Cuscatlan Department. As a result of the fighting, two casualties were inflicted on the military detachment." A final report says that "END rebels attacked a Belloso Battalion unit in Perquin on 11 October, inflicting two casualties on the enemy."

(Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador at 0000 GMT on 12 October broadcasts a one-minute item that reports "heavy fighting has been reported between END rebels and soldiers from Military Detachment No. 1 on 11 October in Potonico and Monte Redondo in Chalatenango Department." The report says that "five casualties were confirmed."

Panama City ACAN in Spanish at 1643 GMT on 14 October carries a 100-word report that states that "a COPREFA bulletin says that urban commandos of the FMLN attacked the San Antonio Abad Power Substation in the western section of the capital at 0145 GMT on 13 October." The reports says that San Salvador had no power until early on 14 October.

(Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador at 0000 GMT on 14 October carries a one-minute report noting that "at 0930 on 10 October END fighters attacked an enemy unit in Piedra Parada, Chilanga, in Morazan Department. It is reported that the enemy fled in complete disarray."

San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish at 0300 GMT on 15 October carries a one-minute report noting that an FMLN attack on military positions in Chinameca, San Miguel Department, early on 14 October resulted in three Army casualties. In addition, it states that "urban commando members harassed policemen protecting the National Gym in San Salvador."

More on 9 Oct Combat

PA1210014391 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT i0 Oct 91

[Text] On 9 October, units of the National Army for Democracy [END] maintained control over stretches of the Pan-American Highway between Villa El Triunfo and the turnoff to Jucuapa. They began their action at 0500 and traffic was still paralyzed along the Pan-American Highway at 1600. Approximately 60 members of the National Guard showed up at 1030. This led to heavy fighting until 1230, when our units forced the National Guard members to flee in disarray. They sustained 13 casualties, including one corporal, whose body was left abandoned in the area. Our forces seized the following: one G-3 rifle, one LAW [light anti-tank weapon] rocket launcher, three knapsacks, and a Motorola communications radio. Members of the Arce Battalion arrived at 1300. They had been hurriedly brought from northern Morazan Department hours earlier. Our forces fought the Arce Battalion until 1600, inflicting eight casualties.

Meanwhile, other END columns have maintained control over the road from Villa El Triunfo to the town of Santiago de Maria. Control of this road also began at 0500, and at 1600 our forces controlled both roads. Our units have erected barricades, held meetings with local residents, and distributed propaganda.

We have another last-minute report. Today, as part of END actions in response to attacks in our territories, our forces used explosives to destroy the electrical power substation in Villa El Triunfo. They also destroyed a

CEL [Lempa River Hydroelectric Executive Commission] vehicle at the substation. The losses to the oligarchy's war economy are estimated at millions of colones.

Therefore, the results of our actions thus far are the destruction of an electrical power substation in Villa El Triunfo and the seizure of a stretch of the Pan-American highway for the entire day. All of this took place under the nose of the useless Arce Battalion, which did nothing in Morazan Department. The battalion was hurriedly brought from Morazan to Usulutan Department to protect the oligarchy's coffee processing plants and we are now seeing the results. Our forces inflicted 21 casualties on the National Guard and the Arce Battalion on this day of victories.

Our forces have also maintained control over the town of San Francisco Morazan in Chalatenango Department since 0500 on 9 October.

Guatemala

Minister Rejects Possible Truce With Rebels

PA1410013291 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 11 Oct 91 p 3

[Text] Government Minister Fernando Hurdado Prem on 10 October said that the government will not ask the rebels to declare a temporary cease-fire or a possible truce because the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG) cannot be recognized as a belligerent group.

Hurtado Prem was questioned by the press on the possibility of reaching a truce with the URNG, as the Salvadoran Government proposed to the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN). According to news reports, the Salvadorans will meet in Mexico to discuss a temporary cease-fire.

Minister Hurtado Prem, who is a member of the government commission that is holding peace talks with the URNG, emphasized that "the situation of El Salvador is completely different from that of Guatemala." In the neighboring country, the FMLN has been recognized as a belligerent group, and, as such, it has a certain status according to international humanitarian law.

Hurtado Prem added: In our country, the government sees the guerrillas as "criminal subversive elements," and we cannot talk to them in order to reach a truce or a temporary cease-fire agreement. We are holding talks with the URNG in order to sign a total peace agreement, not to reach a truce. The case of Guatemala is different from that of El Salvador, the government minister stated.

Hurtado Prem explained that a truce can be reached with a belligerent group that has been recognized as such in accordance with the international humanitarian law. For that to happen, it is necessary for the belligerent group to control an area of territory and have the capability of launching military activities, but the URNG does not fall into that category, Hurtado Prem concluded.

Official Says Talks To Continue

PA1710011491 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 15 Oct 91 p8

[Text] The new round of talks with the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG) is scheduled to be held somewhere in Mexico next week, Manuel Conde, head of the government delegation to the talks, confirmed on 14 October.

He noted that the meetings are scheduled for 21, 22, and 23 October, although the National Reconciliation Commission (CNR) still has not confirmed this. He indicated that the CNR members are not in Guatemala, which is why the meetings with the guerrilla commanders may be postponed.

Conde stated that the discussions on human rights and other topics will continue. He added that progress was made on this complex topic at past meetings, although some aspects were set aside for this next round.

The government delegation, he stressed, is ready to travel to Mexico at any moment. It hopes that the new round, which will also be held in Mexico, will exhaust the human rights topic and proceed to other topics on the agenda.

URNG Declaration on Negotiation Process

PA1510160991 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 11 Oct 91 pp 30, 31

["Declaration" issued by the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity General Command in Guatemala City; date not given]

[Text] Different sectors and personalities have expressed numerous opinions on the negotiating process between the Government of the Republic and the URNG [Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity]. Given the respect that all the aforementioned opinions deserve, as well as the need to clarify the publicity campaign waged by the administration through the government spokesmen, the URNG General Command hereby expresses and establishes its stand on the following issues:

I. The Negotiating Process and Its Contents

A. Character of the Process

The URNG General Command believes the negotiation process has some distinctive characteristics, which are:

1. Examination of the causes that prompted the armed conflict.

2. The fair and democratic solution of the aforementioned causes and the ensuing situation, which has been generated and reflected in society over time.

Subsequently, it is a process which requires, in addition to the political willingness of the parties, the determination to make changes to look for fair solutions.

That is why we have defined the negotiations as a far-reaching historical process that requires analysis and accomplishments that exceed verbal agreements or sporadic political maneuvers.

The negotiation process is an event in which the parties must not only seek solutions, but must consider and express the needs of the entire society.

The fate of Guatemalan society is at stake in this process. We have an exceptional opportunity that we all must conscientiously concur.

It is a process that takes place under very particular conditions. The main objective is to lay the basic and irreversible groundwork to solve problems, which have deep political, historical, and social origins.

B. Extent and Significance of the Topics

The negotiations, which started on 26 April in Mexico City, established an agenda that includes the different aspects of the main problems of our country.

The General Command considers it necessary to assess the points that are included on the agenda. The development and careful, rigorous analysis, with the ensuing conclusions, outline and give weight to this historical opportunity.

As a whole, the agenda expresses the possibility of reaching a truly democratic solution. Thus, the contents of the discussions and the agreements on the aforementioned topics are important and unavoidable. The discussions and agreements cannot be superficial, generic, and unimportant. They have to bring about changes, and be continuing and verifiable.

C. Dynamics and Possibilities of the Negotiations

The negotiation process between the government and the URNG reaffirms the experience of the open dialogue with every political and social sector. The dialogue and the negotiations represent an effective way to find political solutions.

We believe that they must not be seen as a mechanical and abstract reality. Progress can be made as long as there is the continuing desire to give specific solutions to the most important problems and overcome the risks and difficulties of the negotiations.

There are the possibilities of conducting successful negotiations within the parameters of justice and democracy. This requires the combination of necessary factors so that viable solutions will materialize. The negotiations demand much more than rhetoric and demagogic solutions. The negotiations demand a continuing desire to reach agreements with a dimension and guarantee, which regrettably the political life of Guatemala has lacked.

D. Political Willingness and Military Situation

The negotiation process is a way to find a political solution to an armed conflict, and not its immediate conclusion. The end of the armed confrontation is not, and it cannot be, a precondition before the negotiations are over. This holds true particularly in the case of our country, where the armed conflict was generated by social and historical causes, and not by foreign, outside, or unusual conditions.

Therefore, based on lack of political willingness or evidence of it, the government cannot request that the armed conflict end before the signing of a firm and long-lasting peace agreement. Much less can it request that the URNG unilaterally suspend its military operations when the Army continues to launch offensive actions to deal strategic blows in the middle of the negotiations.

The military situation creates a specific problem and it has its own dynamics, which, as we have said on previous occasions, corresponds to the particular situation of the different war theaters.

It is advisable to request that the parties reach bilateral agreements, in keeping with the norms of international humanitarian law. The URNG has even made this proposal.

II. Difficulties and Risks in the Negotiation Process

Out of basic respect for the people of Guatemala, as well as the national or international forces that justly support the negotiation process in Guatemala, the URNG General Command wishes to summarize what it feels are the main difficulties and risks in the negotiation process.

To project a triumphant attitude of the process is just as harmful as to forecast its failure and say it is unimportant. Neither one of the two stands is objective or constructive. Therefore, it is necessary to adopt an honest stand on the main problems that lie ahead. This should be done without committing any indiscretion that will affect discussions at the negotiating table.

A. Negative Internal Pressure

It is no secret that there are groups, though very powerful minority groups, that are opposed to seeking a just and democratic political solution.

These are factors of power that—inside civilian society, as well as within the military structure—want and demand that the conditions of the country remain the same. In this manner, we would remain unchanged at the cost of a great social injustice, without caring for the means or atrocities that have been committed to continue with the oppression.

Its opposition is expressed in various forms and it makes use of all its resources to prevent or hinder the negotiations. To achieve this, they use repressive actions and public means of pressure to influence the course and content of the negotiations, thus trying to prevent the truly democratic option.

It is a serious mistake to ignore the existence and power of these trends. The URNG wants to warn about this threat and its possible effects, not only in the negotiations, but also in the specific effects that the repression and terror against large sectors of the population has and it could have for Guatemalan society.

The threat of creating a climate of uncontrolled terror against the sectors that support the negotiation process is also unacceptable.

Considering the country's situation, the government has a great responsibility to control these negative factors. The security of the people can only be guaranteed with institutional measures that destroy the impunity of those who exercise repression and terror.

B. Isolating the Process From Reality and Social Actors

It is not right to isolate the negotiation process from reality. To ignore and pretend the subjective has already changed historical situations that are consolidated and deeply rooted, even in a false institutionality, is a truly effective manner of hindering a negotiating process and taking away all its possibilities.

In addition, to ignore the concerns and existence of the great social actors and not solve their big problems is to deny support.

This not only negatively affects the democratic content of the negotiation, but it turns it into an isolated fact of reality and social dynamics, removing it from the true needs and solutions that are sought.

Without ample and effective social participation that will support truly democratic solutions, these difficulties will increase until they become obstacles that cannot be surpassed.

C. Negotiation Methods and Approaches

It is necessary to examine negotiation methods and approaches because they could have a significant effect, not only on the dynamics, but also on the essence of the process.

Obviously, the two sides have the responsibility of doing this with flexibility while maintaining consistent positions so suitable solutions may be found.

Because of the role that the conciliator must play, it is important that he act with equanimity and creativity.

D. Limited Political and Social Vision

It is obvious that if the participants do not have a political and social perception, this situation will increasingly obstruct the search for a negotiated political solution. Political and social sensibility is necessary to make progress.

If an irritating legalist and formal perception is added to this deficiency, then there is an additional obstacle.

All these obstacles are expressions of a disposition that goes against the essence of the negotiation process.

We would not be acting in a consistent fashion if we did not caution about these expressions and if we did not urge careful thinking on this very important matter.

E. Use of the Negotiation Process for Personal, Propaganda, or Political Goals

If the negotiation process is used for a purpose other than that which is intended, then it will lose its credibility.

Therefore, propaganda manipulation aimed at benefiting the personal interests of one of the parties cannot be accepted.

III. Expectations, Perspectives, and Proposals

A. The Status of Realistc Expectations

There is nothing more damaging to any process, especially a negotiation process, than creating false expectations about how quickly and easily results will be achieved.

This kind of irresponsible behavior can only lead to disappointment and confusion. In addition, it can take away importance and credibility from the process.

To disregard the complexities of the negotiations, to announce an agreement when there has been no discussion, or to offer immediate and spectacular results is to favor the position of opponents of the negotiations.

Therefore, it is necessary to present realistic expectations based on the viability of the negotiations. Because of the size and objectives of the negotiations, it is necessary to allow enough time to achieve results, or at least to complete the process.

B. The Need for Solid Agreements

To give the negotiation process more weight, agreements with immediate application must be established. We are aware that it is not possible to implement all of the agreements right away but believe that as the topics are discussed there are several points that require timely enactment.

This position is based on two basic premises:

1. The implementation of agreements that involve basic human rights is creating new conditions for solving the armed conflict. For example, once a final agreement is signed it cannot be expected that human rights will be immediately observed.

2. The adoption and enactment of agreements for immediate implementation are established by political guarantees in the presence of our people and the international

community to prevent agreements based on political resolve from becoming mere plans and vain promises. This is the source of the negotiations' credibility.

The implementation of agreements that imply specific measures of various types also constitute a legal foundation for the present and future of the process.

C. Increasing Involvement of Various Sectors

It is obvious that dialogue, exchange, and the search for consensus among the broadest sectors is the essence of democracy. A negotiation process seeking true democratization cannot be unmindful of this principle.

The course of the negotiations requires greater involvement. One of the dangers is that the process will become isolated from Guatemalan society.

The way to avoid this problem is to encourage discussion between the sides involved in the negotiations and various sectors of Guatemalan society.

The mechanism established in the Oslo Agreement, which has proved to be efficient, should be reactivated and enforced.

The URNG expresses its full willingness to carry out that activity and is awaiting any proposal to hold these meetings.

The negotiations have received broad support from the international community, foreign governments and institutions, and world leaders. The URNG advocates greater communication to enhance this support, which will help us to reject negative trends that oppose democracy and justice.

October will mark the sixth month of the negotiation process. After examining this period, the General Command believes that the results have been positive. Progress has been made and a promising path has certainly opened up. Nevertheless, we cannot close our eyes to the difficulties that have emerged.

We reaffirm our determination to seek effective and adequate solutions to the problem. However, we reiterate that we are not negotiating to capitulate. We have defended, and will continue to defend, our people's interests by every means possible. We plan to build a just and democratic society.

Commanders Reiterate Positions

PA1710042291 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0050 GMT 16 Oct 91

[Text] San Jose, 15 Oct (NOTIMEX)—The Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG) said today that it will not unilaterally suspend military operations while the Army continues offensive actions against the rebels.

The URNG added that the actions launched by the Armed Forces are aimed at dealing strategic blows to the guerrillas while peace negotiations are being held.

The URNG issued a communique stating that ending the armed conflict before the negotiations, which began on 26 April in Mexico City, are concluded is not and cannot become a precondition for continuing the talks.

The URNG stated that a request to end the armed conflict before the talks conclude and "firm and long-lasting peace agreements" are signed cannot be considered as a lack of political willingness.

Commanders Rolando Moran, Pablo Monsanto, Carlos Gonzalez and Gaspar Ilom admitted that "progress has been made and a promising future has been opened" at the peace negotiations, although they warned about some difficulties and risks in the process.

The URNG commanders warned that it is no secret to anyone that powerful minority sectors exist that are opposed to seeking a fair and democratic political solution.

They added that those who are threatening the negotiations "are powerful segments of the population, both within the civilian society and military structure, who wish and demand that the conditions of the country do not change."

The commanders accused the government of failing to control these sectors, and rejected "proclaiming points of agreements before the discussions have begun."

The Guatemalans who took up arms three decades ago are demanding that the mechanism established in the Oslo Agreement be incorporated into the peace negotiations. In practive, they stated, this mechanism has demonstrated its effectiveness.

The four guerrillas who form the URNG General Command reiterated that they will continue to use all means in order to defend the interests of the Guatemalan people. They also vowed to continue fighting in order to build a just and democratic society.

Air Force Chief Replaced After Bombing in Quiche

PA1710023291 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 15 Oct 91 p 3

[Text] Brigade General Marco Antonio Vargas Espinola, Guatemalan Air Force commander, was suddenly replaced on direct orders from President Jorge Elias Serrano, issued through the Defense Ministry staff.

The removal of Vargas, who now awaits assignment, took place on 12 October. General Carlos Pozuelos was appointed to fill the post by President Serrano himself. Pozuelos has commanded the southern air base in Retalhuleu for the last two years.

Vargas' removal took place in Guatemala City 48 hours after UN Human Rights expert Christian Tomuschat reported a military plane's bombing of Caba, Chajul, Quiche Department.

Vargas, who during the former Christian Democratic government had served as commander of the northern

air base in Peten Department, was placed at the helm of the Air Force by this administration. Vargas had also served as finance director of the Armed Forces.

Carlos Pozuelos was promoted to general only 10 days ago. For the past two years he has been in command of the southern air base in Retalhuleu. Helicopters under his command responded to an emergency situation after an earthquake in Pochuta almost one month ago. Colonel Otto Ricardo Rios is currently in charge of the northern air base.

Army Issues Communique on Incident

PA1510232791 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 12 Oct 91 p 47

[Text] The Army has issued an official communique reporting that on 10 October two military helicopters transporting supplies to land units checking armed rebel groups operating near Caba and Amachel in El Quiche, were harassed by gunfire from automatic weapons. The crew members had to use their regulation weapons to counter the attack, with the support of an A-37B plane that was protecting them. The Army regrets the loss of some crew members of the military helicopter, who were the targets of terrorist action.

The communique adds that out of respect for the people, the Guatemalan Army wants to establish that this regrettable incident did not occur over a populated area. Due to the characteristics of the terrain, the sound of shooting alarmed the people of the area.

The communique said that this regrettable incident in northern Quiche has unfavorably impressed UN observer Dr. Christian Tomuschat.

Official on Agreements With El Salvador, Honduras

PA1710031091 Guatemala City Teleonce Television in Spanish 1800 GMT 14 Oct 91

[Text] Restructuring of the Organization of Central America States, ODECA, continues, and at the same time the Governments of Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras are implementing recently signed free trade agreements. Guatemala's Acting Foreign Minister Roger Haroldo Rodas Melgar comments:

[Begin Rodas recording] As you know, during the latest presidential summit held in San Salvador the president took a significant initiative regarding a free trade agreement between Guatemala and El Salvador. We signed a similar agreement with Honduras, with several special clauses. This initiative does not entail a break with the Central American Common Market, but rather constitutes a step forward in integrating the region.

We are also working on ODECA. Guatemala submitted a proposal to this effect, although we are not talking about the ODECA that existed back in 1962. Instead, a new Central American institutional organization will be created, reflecting the current situation in the area, to participate as a bloc in all international negotiations. For this reason, the Central American Parliament, the new organization to be established, will be important for consolidating an integrated Central American stance. [end recording]

Country Becomes Official GATT Member

PA1210182991 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1300 GMT 12 Oct 91

[Text] Paris, 12 Oct (NOTIMEX)—GATT sources today disclosed that Guatemala has officially become its 103d member.

Guatemala joined this international organization—with headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland—30 days after GATT received the official confirmation that the Guatemalan Congress had ratified the membership protocol.

Guatemala is the seventh country to join GATT in the past 15 months. The other countries are Tunisia, Venezuela, Bolivia, Costa Rica, Macao, and El Salvador.

GATT authorities disclosed that they are in the process of reviewing membership applications from eight other countries. These countries are: Algeria, Bulgaria, China, Honduras, Mongolia, Nepal, Panama, and Uruguay.

Negotiations for Drug Control Equipment

PA1710042491 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 16 Oct 91 p 6

[Text] Guatemala City, 16 Oct—The Guatemalan Government is negotiating with the Honduran Government to obtain modern radar equipment to control the flight of drug-filled airplanes that enter the country. With adequate equipment, such flights could be detected easily.

Government Minister Fernando Hurtado Prem said that Honduras has installed new radar equipment so its previous equipment is available and could be installed in Guatemala. The objective is to be able to control the airspace over various regions of the country.

Hurtado Prem admitted that Guatemala is unable to exercise effective control over airstrips located throughout the country. These are used by drug traffickers to bring in and take out cocaine.

Proof of this is the airplane accident near Quirigua, Izabal Department, last week when a Colombian airplane carrying cocaine crashed, killing six crewmen. If a Douglas [C-47] airplane tries to land here, the airstrip must be long.

Hurtado Prem said that if the equipment is obtained from Honduras and installed in the country, it will be easy to detect the unauthorized flights by airplanes and to maintain more strict control over drug trafficking operations in the country.

According to available information, there are no fewer than 1,500 clandestine airstrips in Guatemala. Most are

located in private farms and in areas that are considered to be under the control of drug traffickers.

The government minister did not give details of the cost of the equipment or the date of installation because, he explained, the transaction is still being negotiated with the Honduran Government.

Nicaragua

Lacayo: Chamorro Campaign Not Given CIA Money

PA1610160791 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 15 Oct 91 pp 1, 12

[Report by Maria Alicia Talavera]

[Text] Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo on 14 October denied receiving "a single penny from the CIA" for President Violeta Chamorro's electoral campaign, as this week's edition of NEWSWEEK magazine reported.

Lacayo, who said he was and still is the head of the campaign, "because there has only been one campaign," was initially skeptical and also annoyed by the report when several newsmen approached him yesterday at the Presidential Palace.

"We flatly deny it," he said, referring to the U.S. publication's report that the CIA had indirectly given $100,000 for Chamorro's presidential campaign out of a fund of $600,000 earmarked for the contras exiled in Miami.

Without mentioning any political party, political sources that were consulted recalled that Alfredo Cesar's Social Democratic Party organized the entire electoral campaign after Cesar returned to the country.

Personalities such as Vice President Virgilio Godoy, Miriam Arguello, Hortensia Rivas, and Carlos Quinonez (the last two were members of the so-called Civic Way) played a major role during the UNO [National Opposition Union] campaign.

NEWSWEEK stated that the CIA established an operation called the New Settlement of Nicaraguan Exiles Program that distributed funds among 30 contra leaders living in Miami.

According to the report, approximately $100,000 from that fund was sent to Cesar. The publication cited current National Assembly President Alfredo Cesar as stating that all the money he handled was used in repatriation expenses and none of it went to the Chamorro campaign.

Carlos Siles, a Cesar adviser in the National Assembly and a member of the "Cesar Group" who returned from Miami to Nicaragua in June 1989 (7 months before the elections) had this to say to BARRICADA last night: "I am not just denying that we received that money, I am calling this an outrage. No one in our group got CIA money. Each of us paid for his own return."

In addition to Siles, Government Minister Carlos Hurtado, Danilo Lacayo, director of the Information and Press Department of the Presidency, and Government Ministry spokesman Frank Cesar returned with Alfredo Cesar. Siles felt that the aforementioned report "is part of a destabilization campaign that is trying to involve Mrs. Chamorro."

The report quoted a top official who was familiar with the Nicaraguan exiles program as stating that these leaders used the money to pay for their return to Nicaragua and work in the Chamorro campaign.

Presidency Minister Lacayo hinted that his government may sue NEWSWEEK.

"We had nothing to do with the CIA or with people who came from abroad. We did not get a cent from the CIA. I personally have never met or talked to any CIA official, at least not to my knowledge," he stated.

Lacayo indicated that Chamorro's campaign was financed entirely with funds that she collected. They came from the National Endowment for Democracy, through the Institute for Electoral Promotion and Instruction (IPCE).

He noted that he collected funds in Nicaragua, and added: "We flatly deny the report." He confirmed that last week he received a call from NEWSWEEK, "and I denied it. If they published it that way, their handling of it is warped."

The funds he handled during the campaign did not come from the CIA, he insisted. "If I had known that, I would not have accepted it. I want to make that very clear."

"Many people returned from abroad. Many political parties joined UNO. I do not accept responsibility for money that those who returned from abroad received or that the parties could have received, bearing in mind that the political parties did not contribute to the campaign, since it was the other way around."

Lacayo felt "a mix-up may exist with regard to the funds that other people received for purposes unrelated to the campaign or Mrs. Chamorro."

Reportage on EPS-Recontra Confrontation

EPS Recaptures Recontra-Held Areas

PA1210003491 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 10 Oct 91 pp 1, 12

[Report by Tatiana Rothschuh]

[Text] Santo Domingo, Chontales—On 9 October, Sandinist People's Army [EPS] troops fully recaptured the La Pinuela and El Ayote areas, which had been under recontra control for several months.

On instructions from the government, the EPS carried out an operation to recover the area and caused the

recontra leader Rojito, other leaders, and more than 100 recontras who had taken over the area, to flee.

Until yesterday, no clashes had been reported because the recontras fled before the EPS troops arrived.

That area, which the recontras described as "liberated territory," had become a meeting place for extremist mayors, who incited armed operations and confrontations against the population. One of them is the mayor of Ciudad Rama, who even acted as a spokesman for the recontra groups.

On 9 October BARRICADA reporters visited the area of the operation, which was described by residents as "a political blow" against the recontras because, without firing a single shot, the EPS troops forced them to flee inland.

Meanwhile, CIAV [International Commission of Support and Verification] sources reported that recontra commanders "Dimas-Tigrillo" [Francisco Baldivia] and "Bolivar" [Jaime Zeledon], who operate in the northern part of the country, have offered to return the weapons seized from the army on 5 October.

In Managua, Santiago Murray, who heads the CIAV mission, said that this organization participated in the operation in El Ayote at the request of Lieutenant Colonel Cesar Delgadillo, military commander in Region 5.

Murray described the incident at El Ayote as "regrettable," and confirmed that on 9 October CIAV Representative Roberto Menendez traveled to the northern region to try to contact recontra leader "Dimas-Tigrillo."

The CIAV will try to reach an agreement with "Dimas" for the return of weapons the recontras seized from EPS soldiers who were kidnapped and released.

"We are very worried," Murray said after learning of the army's decision, on orders from the government, to carry out an operation in the area to recover the weapons.

At the time BARRICADA interviewed Murray, he had received no information on the results of the operation or on the efforts conducted by CIAV Representative Menendez in the northern region.

Murray confirmed that 34 EPS soldiers were captured during the incident, although there was a "tacit understanding" that there would be no armed operations by either side.

Murray said that, according to reports from military sources, the operation in El Ayote "would take place as scheduled." He added that he feared a generalization of the conflict, and would do everything possible to get "Dimas" to order "Rojito" return the weapons.

In Santo Domingo, Subcommander Edwin Cordero of the Government Ministry said the El Ayote operation began on the morning of 9 October and that by the afternoon no major incidents had been reported.

People arriving from the area where the operation is taking place have reported that the military presence is noticeable and that civilians are being disarmed.

Unofficially it was learned that the operation is headed by Lt. Col. Cesar Delgadillo, commander of the 5th Military Region, and Commander Marcos Arevalo, second commander of public security in the Government Ministry. Combined forces of the army and police are participating.

Area residents reported that the army continues chasing and locating recontra forces commanded by "Rojito," "Matizon," "Joel," and "31" on the other side of the Siquia River.

One of the measures adopted during the operation was restricting vehicle access to El Ayote, which caused discontent among farmers and peasants in Santo Domingo. The prohibition was lifted at 1500.

On 9 October we observed rural police officers guarding some of the checkpoints. Captain Jose Francisco Lagos, a former commander in the Nicaraguan Resistance, condemned the attitude of the recontras who took the soldiers' weapons. "It was a serious mistake, because the army has constitutional authority and so their actions would be considered a crime anywhere in the world," he said.

Lagos said the combined EPS and police forces that entered El Ayote on 4 October were not belligerent or combative. They were going to talk with the recontra leaders and tell them that they did not intend to take action against them.

FDSN Sends Letter to Chamorro

PA1610170891 Managua Radio Catolica in Spanish 1130 GMT 14 Oct 91

[Letter to President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro from the staff of the Commander Enrique Bermudez Varela Democratic Forces for National Salvation, FDSN, read by FDSN Secretary General Bigote de Oro; date not given—recorded]

[Text] Mrs. President: We understand that the incidents in the 5th Military Region between Commander Rojito and members of the EPS [Sandinist People's Army] were due to mistakes made by both sides.

Since we were not aware of the operation, we request your understanding and to allow us a short time while we contact Commander Rojito through CIAV [International Commission of Support and Verification].

We, the members of the staff of the Commander Enrique Bermudez Varela Democratic Forces for National Salvation [FDSN], commit ourselves to returning our weapons on 14 October 1991, and we would like to meet with you then to deliver them to you personally.

As you probably understand, we first need guarantees from the military forces—the EPS, National Police, and

Government Ministry—so that two commanders of our General Staff can personally contact Commander Rojito to try to recover the weapons that were seized.

Mrs. President: We combatants of the FDSN love Nicaragua and want peace and tranquility. However, we must inform you that if the EPS should try to recover the weapons by force, that will be the end of the negotiations, and we will initiate military actions. Those 40 rifles should never witness the bloodshed that could result if the EPS attacks our combatants.

The members of the EPS High Command, as professional soldiers, should realize it is not possible for us to deliver the weapons today, as we are not in direct contact with Commander Rojito. Therefore, we ask for your understanding under the current circumstances. For peace and tranquility, for democracy and honor, let us prevent bloodshed.

We will be waiting for your written reply in order to be sure that the EPS troops will remain in their military bases.

Yours truly,
Staff members:
Commander Dimas-Tigrillo [Francisco Baldivia]
Commander Tigrillo [Encarnacion Valdivia], G-1
Commander Bolivar, [Jaime Zeledon], G-2
Commander Campeon, [Jacinto Tercero], G-3
Commander Charrito, G-4
Commander El Indomable, [Jose Angel Moran], G-5
Commander Freddy, G-6
Commander Cinco Pinos, G-5
Secretary General Bigote de Oro [Alcides Rodriguez]

FDSN Issues Communique on Talks

PA1610213591 Managua Radio Catolica in Spanish 1130 GMT 14 Oct 91

[Text] On 12 October, high-level officials of the CIAV-OAS [International Commission of Support and Verification-Organization of American States] met with members of the rebels' staff 20 km northwest of Jinotega. They exchanged views on disarmament and security. They also discussed the recent military activity in the country.

A second meeting between members of the staff of the Democratic Forces for National Salvation [FDSN] and Government Minister Carlos Hurtado was scheduled for 17 October.

The rebels published their communique No. 6, which reads as follows:

The FDSN informs the national and international community of the following:

1. For the sake of peace and reconciliation, we invited President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro to a dialogue with the FDSN staff to seek possible solutions to the armed conflict that Nicaraguans are currently facing. The meeting will take place on 18 October of this year.

2. We hold Antonio Lacayo and General Humberto Ortega responsible for military actions that could take place as a result of their recent statements promoting operations against the civilian population and rebels throughout the national territory.

3. We do not support unilateral disarmament by the Sandinist military forces, as the various levels of the security and disarmament commissions have not been taken into consideration as the latest agreements establish.

4. We reaffirm our commitment to struggle for Nicaragua's democratization, and we issue a call to the people in general to join the general disarmament plan and our commitment to end the hostilities.

For peace and social justice, we will fight to the end.

[Dated] 11 October 1991
[Signed] FDSN Staff
Chief of Staff Commander Dimas [Francisco Baldivia]
Secretary General Commander Bigote de Oro [Alcides Rodriguez]

Halt to Military Actions Urged

PA1710022491 Managua Radio Catolica in Spanish 1130 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Communique issued by Commander Waslala of the Democratic Guerrilla Column in Region Five; date not given—numbering as heard]

[Text] We hereby report to the Nicaraguan people the following:

1. On 9 October, we were militarily attacked deep in the northern Chontales mountains as we were attempting to travel to the dialogue.

2. During this operation, the Sandinist Air Force, land troops, and special forces attacked us simultaneously.

2. As a result of this repression against the democratic guerrilla columns, the peasants have abandoned their homes and fled to the hills out of fear of being murdered; others desperately want to find and join the guerrillas.

3. We reiterate our willingness to hold talks in order to find a peaceful and democratic solution to the conflict.

4. We ask President Chamorro's government to halt the repression against the peasant community; otherwise, our position will no longer be flexible.

5. We warn the government on future actions against the people. We have the support of the people of Nicaragua, and we would be willing to call these people out onto the streets throughout the country if military operations are not withdrawn from the area.

6. The operations are taking place in the following places: Santo Domingo, El Ayote, La Pinuela, along the Siquia River, El Jobo, Boca de Pilan, (Kahuasaka), Campana, Ticoral, Cerro Azul, Del Gallo Hill, [name

indistinct] Hill, and Comarca. This operation goes from Santo Domingo, La Pinuela, La Batea, and El Rama to the northwestern Chontales mountainous area.

7. We call on the community in general to be on the alert to counteract these actions against the democratic principles that cost us so much suffering and bloodshed.

Democratic Guerrilla Column
Signed Commander Waslala, a rearmed Nicaraguan Resistance member.

Panama

President Endara's Speech at UN General Assembly

PA1410000091 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA in Spanish 11 Oct 91 p 12a

[Speech by President Guillermo Endara Galimany at the 46th Session of the UN General Assembly in New York on 10 October]

[Text] Messrs. President, Secretary General, delegates, and special guests:

1. Our Republic feels great satisfaction at the election of His Excellency Samir Shihabi as General Assembly president, and we feel confident that under his competent direction, this 46th session will be of great importance to our organization.

The work of his predecessor, Professor Guido de Marco, set the base for the structural changes required by the new international situation.

Our people rejoice over the entry of new members. In addition to the cordial relations we have always maintained with the ROK, we now add the hope of the reunification of the Korean peninsula. The Republic of the Marshall Islands and the federated states of Micronesia are neighbors in the Pacific Ocean, which for so many centuries has linked us with Asia. Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania are examples of courage and faith in freedom, culminating with their recognition by the international community.

From this podium, a year ago, I recounted our Republic's most recent history. The ups and downs we experienced could only be understood in the light of our domestic reality, which often is not understood very well in certain spheres.

At that time, I also wanted to highlight some of the national values that we treasure, among which is our fondness for democracy, our worship of human dignity, and our devotion to individual freedom. On the opposite side, there is our aversion to poverty, to sectarianism, and to sickness. The Republic of Panama will always be willing to contribute its efforts—with honesty and determination—not only domestically, but as members of the international community.

2. A year ago we entertained the possibility of an age of peace and cooperation among countries. Today we begin to build the path of a new society for humanity. The relationship between the superpowers could be constructive. We understand the situation is complicated; however, we notice that it has already yielded positive results at the state level.

The changes in the Soviet Union, Eastern Europe, and Asia are reasons to feel optimistic and invite cooperation. This is how the international community has understood it and backs the positive transformation. For the Republic of Panama, the establishment of diplomatic and consular relations with the Soviet Union is the path for a new and meaningful relationship on the threshold of the 21st century.

Within the framework of this budding freedom, we have to focus on the national identity crisis. This crisis is so understandable, just like the divisionism that followed our independence from Spain during the last century. As part of the Great Colombia, we witnessed the shattering of a dream and the limitation of a continental design. We are now trying to rebuild, having paid the high price for the separation.

We see with concern and grief Yugoslavia's struggle. We are aware of the roots of the ethnic problem, but at the same time harbor the hope that development forces surpass the separating forces of divisionism, both in Yugoslavia and emerging areas in Africa.

Peace in the Middle East requires a new kind of tolerance between Israel and the Arab countries. The need for a conference to study the current situation and help end the decades of enmity is essential. It is necessary, not only for the region and for world peace, but also for the programs to save mankind and defend the ecology. The surest way to attain a lasting peace is a negotiated solution that fulfills the specific needs of all the countries involved.

Our government has closely followed political developments in South Africa. We believe that a serious effort is being exerted to revise the apartheid system. The measures adopted by the government in Pretoria are important and deserve an impartial study that considers the interest of the South African people. A solution that agrees with the current international situation must be found.

3. The political problems in Europe and the eastern Mediterranean region are undeniably important for all, but I wish to refer to two obstacles that we must overcome, within this organization and in each of our states: I am referring to the poverty of men and the impoverishment of the ecology.

Poverty increases more every day. Thousands of people live in extremely deplorable conditions in developing countries. More than half the population in Latin

America and the Caribbean survive with difficulty. Statistics in developed countries conceal the vast zones of human poverty, where luxury presumably prevails.

The efforts by the United Nations to reduce poverty deserve praise and support. The UN Development Programs and regional critical poverty projects in our subcontinent help the situation, but they are not enough. They have to be complemented with additional international cooperation measures.

4. Panama has prepared measures within a national strategy to reduce poverty. The measures include a series of health, education, housing, and employment plans that will be implemented in the next five years, emphasizing mother-child nutrition, low-cost housing, and employment programs. The support of nongovernment organizations has proved valuable and represents a nongovernment participation mechanism without which the democratic process would be incomplete.

We will achieve a much better world in the next century if we realize that riches for one part of the society cannot be created by reducing another part of society to poverty at international or national levels. North and South relations must change, based on mutual respect and the acceptance of a fair salary that a human being deserves in all regions.

The price of our raw materials must be reviewed. World trade and investments must truly increase. We need a generous vision of the use and distribution of riches. It is not a matter of paternalism, only of justice. Thus, it is important not to let the Uruguay Round GATT negotiations reach a stalemate; and it is vital for regional economic groups not to create protected zones.

Last year I suggested that we declare a "Decade Against Poverty," to curb the increase in poverty, disease, and illiteracy in the world. Today I recognize the efforts by the United Nations in this noble endeavor and I insist that we should continue to strive so that the new era of international cooperation may also reach the poor.

5. We are all concerned about the deterioration of the ecology and the deadly consequences that this would have for future generations. We Panamanians are quite concerned about our situation, the nature of our natural resources, and the impact that their degradation would have for the planet—particularly for Panama.

We have two oceans united by a canal. That canal is also a Panamanian resource and an instrument for world trade. Our fishing encompasses the Caribbean Sea and the Humboldt current. We are, literally, the forward defense of the Amazon region. Our Darien has represented a first-rate reserve for several decades. The area is ruled, both in the Pacific and the Atlantic, by organizations in which Indian groups that live in the area participate on an equal basis. They have representatives at every government level, from the local municipality to the National Legislative Assembly.

The rupture in the ecological balance of the area will affect fishing in both seas, canal operations, and interoceanic trade.

My government established these facts at the recent meeting in Madrid. I would like to state at this forum that it is necessary to quantify the value of these reservations, which belong to humanity. They should be used equally by all people—those in the North and the South, so that the earth will not be hampered with owners or opportunists. The painful measures implemented by small countries in this field require the technical and economic cooperation of the developed countries.

Aware of the implicit dangers to all of humanity, we have adopted the measures prescribed by the United Nations regarding the disposal and incineration of toxic and dangerous wastes in the Caribbean region. We have also been especially careful in transporting oil and other chemical products that transit the canal. We are committed to the protection of our hydric resources and especially to the preservation of the canal hydrographic basin.

The world conference on Environment and Development, which will be held in Brazil in 1992, will be of decisive importance to this topic, and Panama supports all of the measures necessary for its success.

6. The military government that preceded me failed to fulfill the state's duties toward international bodies and other creditors. Their only goal was to enrich themselves and squander the capital of the nation. Thus, that government neither paid the debts it contracted, nor promoted the economy's development.

My government has been forced to tackle unemployment, investment recession, incomprehensible political harassment, and payment of a debt inherited from the previous regime. Our orderly efforts have produced certain specific results because the domestic economy is being restored. The fiscal situation is normalizing. We have already reached acceptable agreements with international financial organizations and the Paris Club countries. Finally, we have prepared an economic adjustment program so our economy will be part of the international cooperation plan, we have restructured our debt, and made new investment plans.

Our decision to join the Central American group is based on the trend toward regional grouping. I am convinced, meanwhile, of the democratic course followed by the countries in the region. We are taking cautious action but our determination shows firm political resolve. Panama is aware of its role as liaison with the South American continent and with the Caribbean which, from colonial times, has been linked to us by blood, customs, and interests.

7. The Panama Canal is preparing to become Panamanian, not only in name but in deed, as of 31 December 1999. It is proper to state at this forum that, contrary to the voices we sometimes hear, the Republic of Panama is

responsibly preparing to administer this national property, which also belongs to humanity.

It has always been said that the Panamanian territory is ours but that the money has been U.S. capital. The work to widen the Culebra Cut cost over $200 million. It needed to be widened several years ago and the work was initiated and financed with the canal tolls. We will no longer have this income from the tolls after the year 2000, which means we must make an economic sacrifice. We will prove our seriousness by doing so.

The Republic of Panama, on the other hand, is preparing a mechanism to allow for cooperation among its users, so the canal can play a dual role as a national resource and as an international tool. We expect to present an original plan at the second Ibero-American summit in Madrid, as a Panamanian contribution to that great community of people linked by the two great oceans.

8. I have not forgotten that a year ago I committed the Panamanian Government to the cause of freedom for Haiti. International efforts and the Haitian desire for freedom produced memorable elections in which a humble citizen was chosen as the constitutional president. We know how Haitians feel. We know that spoiled officers in Haiti are doing today what spoiled officers in Panmama did a couple of years ago. Under no circumstances should a democratic government allow the people's will to be deceived in such a way—not in Haiti, in Panama, or in any other part of the world. All the speeches on poverty, underdevelopment, and inequality would be senseless if we allowed the people's freedom of choice to be abused or if we allow the heroes of Hatian freedom to be abused with sophisms that have nothing to do with reality.

I have left this point to end my address because my speech does not deal only with the situation of a small country in the Caribbean, but it directly relates to efforts to restructure the United Nations and create a new world order based on justice. The addresses delivered here by those who have defended the supremacy of a just international order over the domestic injustices committed in each country have been applauded. As recently as 7 October, the king of Spain moved this assembly when, in the name of his old kingdom, he said, and I quote: ...human rights are not the domestic problem of any one country, unquote.

Haiti's tragedy is known to all Ibero-Americans, as well as many Africans, Asians, and Europeans. Freedom obliges us to defend everyone's freedom, at the risk of excluding ourselves from society. My government backs all the necessary measures to reestablish constitutional order in Haiti. We would do the same in any other case. We do not accept formal concessions that end up betraying the people.

We have maintained an unequivocal position at the OAS so that the drama my country experienced in 1989 is not repeated in any other state. The OAS cannot fail in its duty to reestablish democracy in Haiti. That would endanger democracy on the continent and undermine the United Nation's existence. That is why the Panamanian delegation has made it known that it is always willing to support all measures that would effectively and efficiently contribute to reestablishing democracy in Haiti. The Panamanian delegation did not argue the false principle of non-intervention because it believes that sovereignty is upheld by the people's self-determination and not by any government.

Mr. President, Mr. Secretary General, excellencies, ladies and gentlemen: It is customary for the Brazilian president to inaugurate the general debate. Today, for the first time, a head of state is closing it. It is characteristic that after a large country, a small country such as ours should end it. The strength of man is not reflected in his size. The Netherlands, Greece, Switzerland, and Japan, are proof of the strength of the small.

In the name of my people and of all the people who have maintained a constant concern for the peace and welfare of the nations, I pay homage to Don Javier Perez de Cuellar. He has faced up to UN reforms with courage. He has left in Afghanistan, the Middle East, Cambodia, Cyprus, and Central America—to mention a few places—testimony of his dedication and competence. Panama, as always, gives him all its support and recognizes Mr. Perez de Cuellar as one who dedicated his life initially to serving his own country and then to serving huamanity. Many thanks.

Endara Addresses Council on Drug Trafficking

PA1510024691 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA in Spanish 12 Oct 91 p 1A

[Text] President Guillermo Endara Galimany said his administration has seized more than 7,000 kg of cocaine in less than two years, while during the last 10 years of the dictatorship the military regime seized only 5,000 kg.

President Endara made the statement at the Plenum of the Council of the Americas in New York, where he said that this was only one example of his commitment to eradicate drug trafficking.

The president's speech was titled Drug Trafficking and Money Laundering, and he took the opportunity to tell "Panama's truth."

Among the points discused by Endara were Panama's economic situation; the international banks that operate in the financial center; and the foreign debt, which "amounts to more than $6 billion, a figure that is more than our gross national product and represents one of the highest per capita debts in the world."

Regarding accusations that his government has allowed an increase in drug trafficking compared to the previous government, President Endara said the fact that there are more drug seizures should be considered proof of Panama's determination to fight drugs and not as evidence of an increase in drug trafficking.

President Endara listed the actions that his government is conducting in the open war against drugs. Among them, he mentioned the seizure of 400 bank accounts belonging to individuals suspected of being connected with drug trafficking.

Endara Holds News Conference Upon Return Home

PA1510161891 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 14 Oct 91 p 1a

[Report by Manuel Alvarez Cedeno]

[Text] President Guillermo Endara reiterated last night that although National Police Director Gonzalo Menendez Franco violated the Constitution by participating in political activities, he will allow him to retain his post. The president was also optimistic that Panama will recover the millions of dollars that deposed General Manuel Antonio Noriega stole from the country, because efforts are now being conducted in "a coordinated fashion."

Upon returning to Panama after attending the 46th session of the UN General Assembly, Endara hosted a news conference at Tocumen Airport and stated that since Panamanian laws do not consider contributing money that was derived from drug trafficking to political campaigns to constitute a crime, no charges can be made in this respect.

Endara's remarks came after he was asked to comment on the charges against Former President Nicolas Ardito Barletta by former Colonel Lorenzo Purcell, who said during the Noriega trial in Miami that part of Ardito's 1984 campaign was (presumably) financed with drug trafficking money, something that Ardito has denied.

"I understand that it was a contribution to a political campaign. I do not think that something like that is considered as a crime, although it should be. Currently it is not a crime, so I do not think we have any latitude with regard to an official investigation in Panama concerning Purcell's accusations," Endara noted.

Reacting to a reporter's insistence concerning the censure vote being debated in the National Legislative Assembly against Government and Justice Minister Juan Chevalier for failing to dismiss Menendez Franco, Endara indicated that the action has been spearheaded by a political group "that is green with envy."

In a direct reference to the Christian Democratic Party [PDC], the president stated that Menendez Franco's work as the head of the National Police is much better than theirs (the PDC), when one of their own (Ebraim Asvat) held that post, and that is why they are "green with envy," he added.

"The censure vote makes no sense," he said, reiterating that Menendez Franco will remain in his job. "I made that decision as chief of the Public Force."

After Menendez Franco attended the Arnulfist Party [PA] convention held two weeks ago in Penonome, Cocle Province, PDC and Democratic Revolutionary Party legislators have agreed on censuring the police chief, since the Constitution bars National Guard personnel from participating in partisan political activities, except to vote.

"He violated the Constitution and Article 15 of Law 38, but there is nothing to force the president to dismiss him. I will not dismiss him. That is my decision and I will bear that historic responsibility," he indicated.

He was met at the airport by several ministers and approximately 100 PA members, while presidential security personnel, armed with M-16 assault rifles, guarded the terminal and were strategically placed all along the road leading to the airport.

Concerning Chevalier's sudden trip to New York during the president's stay last week, Endara said that an important topic came up on which Endara needed to consult with the government minister, but did not disclose what it was about.

On the funds Noriega stole from the public treasury, Endara said that during his stay in New York he met with Foreign Minister Julio Linares; Jaime Ford, Panama's ambassador to Washington: the DRP's [Directorate for the Recovery of State Property] Eusebio Marchhosky: Carlos Rodriguez [Ambassador to the United Nations]; and U.S. Attorney Tomas Equals. Equals arrived in Panama on the evening of 13 October to coordinate recovery efforts.

Endara reiterated that up to now $30 million of the stolen money has been attached in the UK, Washington, and Miami, and said that there is a great possibility that millions more will be recovered, because now our work is being coordinated. Equals is in charge of coordinating it, Endara added.

In the United States, in addition to taking part in the UN session, the president met with the Foreign Affairs Council and the Council of the Americas.

On the alleged coup that former soldiers were attempting to stage, which the Attorney General's Office reported, Endara said that the statement by Rogelio Cruz must be taken into account because prior to Cruz' disclosure "I had received this information."

Endara said that his government took the necessary precautions to prevent this type of situation "without becoming alarmed or panicking."

Column Reveals U.S.-Noriega Secret Negotiations

PA1510193591 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA in Spanish 14 Oct 91 p 6a

[From "Hidden Truths" column by Tomas Cabal: "The Secret Negotiations of Manuel Antonio Noriega"]

[Text] One week after the failed military coup in October 1989 that nearly ended his mandate as Commander in

Chief of the Panama Defense Forces [FDP], General Manuel Antonio Noriega sent his lawyers to speak to the Bush Administration with the intention of resuming a dialogue related to his becoming the permanent "maximum leader."

A memorandum obtained from lawyer Frank Rubino dated 12 October 1989 reveals how the U.S. Government negotiated for two years with the Panamanian dictator, disregarding the hopes of the majority of the Panamanian people.

In this document, Rubino points out that he met with Undersecretary of State [title as published] Michael Kozak, representing the State Department, and with Robert S. Mueller, assistant to the U.S. Attorney General. The meeting, which took place in Washington, was intended to resolve the Panamanian crisis, with the Americans insisting that Noriega should step down from his post as head of the FDP and leave Panama; the United States would not suspend the indictment, but the U.S. Government would not pressure for a trial if Noriega stepped down.

The proposals presented by Kozak had the approval of President George Bush, who wanted an immediate resolution of the crisis between the two countries.

The Americans were willing to negotiate the following issues with Noriega, which supports the political blindness that typifies the United States when it pertains to Central America: the United States would concede that Noriega's successor could be chosen by FDP officials; Noriega could choose his country of exile and later return to Panama; and exile would also be granted to Luis Del Cid, Daniel Delgado, [Luis] Papo Cordoba, and Nivaldo Madrinan. The last two were involved in the shocking murder of guerrilla Dr. Hugo Spadafora.

According to the memorandum, the possibility of cancelling the elections that Guillermo Endara had won or demanding new elections if the situation called for it was also discussed.

If Noriega had accepted the U.S. demands, Endara would not be president today, the FDP would still be in power, and Manuel Antonio Noriega would be enjoying a golden exile in Spain.

This is a good lesson for those Panamanian politicians who are constantly looking toward the northern giant as a solution to their problems.

The 1989 negotiations between Noriega and the gringos followed the trend the Haitians have now discovered, where geopolitical interests of the moment prevail even though these interests may condemn Spanish speaking countries to poverty and repression that are the legacy of the military regimes in this hemisphere.

Commentary Demands Forgiveness of Foreign Debt

PA1710043391 Panama City CRITICA LIBRE in Spanish 16 Oct 91 p 4

[Unattributed commentary from the "Tribuna Libre" op-ed page: "Forgiving the External Debt Versus Social Violence"]

[Text] In "Hamlet," William Shakespeare depicted a controversial situation with moral implications: To be or not to be. I would pose this same question to the current administration regarding the national social, economic, and political situation. At the same time, I would urge them to carefully consider what attitude they will adopt toward the interests of everyone who elected them, particularly the needy sectors, in light of the country's appalling external debt and international institutions' intended measures. I would offer these alternatives: You are either with the people or against them; You either support the people's interests or turn your back on the great majority of those who elected you. All sectors that fought against militarism in search of favorable changes and true democracy, even under Noriega's regime of terror, are morally committed to search for mechanisms that will ensure forgiveness of the external debt. It is essential that sectarian interests be put aside. In most cases, these "mechanisms" only solve the problems of particular groups. These solutions later turn out to be mere announcements and proclamations rather than a real resolution of the problem. All of these groups exploit the needs of the people to obtain their own specific objectives.

Even though it is known that the root of this problem is the foreign debt and the international financial institutions' measures, this attitude has served as an excuse for not facing the problem and the consequences that facing it may bring. We witnessed this during the difficult moments of the narco-tyranny. Several "leaders" served the dismantled regime with their attitudes of cowardice and opportunism.

I must also point out that the Civic Crusade, a movement that was strengthened during the fight thanks to the participation of the poorer sectors, must become active and respond to popular interests. At the same time these interests are not being fulfilled, unpopular measures are affecting the people even more. Except for a few economically powerful sectors that will oppose such action to protect their interests, the population expects this participation. Regarding several leaders who have now decided to step into the arena, I am sure the civilian population will not allow the return of militarism or those who fed off militarism right up to the very last days of Noriega.

The people fought for more benefits, not more sacrifices. I appeal to the government to demand the forgiveness of the foreign debt as an alternative to prevent social violence. This alternative will benefit all of us who believe in true democracy, remembering that democracy is founded on socially just solutions.

I must also point out that the people are aware of the attitude of certain political parties and union leaders who are speaking out while looking toward 1994, although they know the country is experiencing a socio-economic crisis. This illustrates that they are only looking out for their personal, partisan, and ideological interests and their return to power. I recommend that any opportunist mentality be rejected and that we demand the forgiveness of the foreign debt or reject the 1994 elections. Otherwise, unpopular measures may stir the people into social violence before 1994.

Armed Colombians Reported Stealing Lumber Trees

PA1710041191 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 16 Oct 91 p1A

[Report by Manuel Alvarez Cedeno]

[Text] On 15 October, Luis Narvaez, director of the Institute of Renewable Natural Resources [Inrenare], reported that heavily armed Colombian groups secretly enter Darien Province to steal fine lumber, which they later sell in their country.

Narvaez said that in the past two months he has received information that, in the Balsa river region, heavily armed Colombians (carrying assault rifles and shotguns) "are cutting down mahogany trees," among others, to take back to their country and sell.

Seventy percent of Darien's 16,671 km is virgin forest. The province, on the border with Colombia, has large quantities of lumber—resources Panama needs.

Narvaez said he did not know how many Colombians are working in the area or how many trees they have felled. Nevertheless, he claimed that Embera Indians and peasants living in Darien have observed their activity. Panamaninan officials have seen the deforested areas from the air.

He added: "I believe this situation is critical, not only because one of our resources is being tapped but because it is a matter of national sovereignty."

Narvaez said Inrenare is not taking any action because the problem is being handled "government to government."

Argentina

Cordoba Governor Views Changes in Radical Party

PY1610222291 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 13 Oct 91 pp 2, 3

[Text] In an exclusive interview by this newspaper, Cordoba Governor Eduardo Angeloz praised Raul Alfonsin's decision to give up a second term as president of the Radical Civic Union [UCR]. He also made a veiled criticism of the former president when he said that Alfonsin's decision will allow a reconstruction of the UCR's winning image.

In a written note, which was given to this newspaper by Rolando Salvatierra, Angeloz' press secretary, the governor said that Raul Alfonsin's decision to give up a second term as UCR president "is a generous act, befitting the man that reestablished democracy in Argentina at a moment when the UCR was responsible for the Republic's destiny."

He added: "The moment currently being experienced by the party called for Alfonsin's decision so that the UCR can recover responsibility for promoting and leading the changes required by the country."

Angeloz pointed out: "Alfonsin's decision obliges me to promise to continue side by side with whomever is elected UCR president and is given the responsibility of rebuilding the UCR's winning image in society's view."

Angeloz' comments were praise for Alfonsin's decision, but also defined his differences with the former president.

A significant portion of Angeloz' comments referred to his promise to support Alfonsin's successor as a way of meeting the requirements of the leading position that sectors inside and outside the UCR assign to him. The comments Angeloz made yesterday about recovering the UCR's winning image are suggestive because they imply—elegantly, but clearly—that Alfonsin was responsible for making the UCR lose this image.

Although a large number of Alfonsin supporters are expected to react to Angeloz' comments, all the UCR leaders intend "to act as generously as Alfonsin did."

Nevertheless, the main leaders are preparing for the transition stage that recently began and, as good politicians, they do not want to lose the space that they believe to legitimately be theirs.

In the complex UCR mosaic, only one thing is certain. The next official UCR leadership will emerge from the 15 November National UCR Committee meeting.

Without Alfonsin, Angeloz, and [UCR Senator Fernando] de la Rua in UCR leadership positions, it is thought that the UCR will be led by the party's Political Action Committee, which should include all those who represent the most important party groups.

Anyway, the struggle for Alfonsin's successor has begun.

Although the party leaders consulted by CLARIN asserted that Alfonsin did not name any successor, he did name three men who he thinks are capable of replacing him: Horacio Jaunarena, former defense minister and Alfonsin's current principal aide; Mario Negri, deputy Cordoba governor; and Mario Losada, senator for Misiones Province. Although the three of them belong to the Alfonsin line, they have different qualities and their characteristic is that they maintain good relations with other party factions.

Obviously, there are other party members with good chances of being elected. Such is the case with Victor Fayad who, despite losing the election for governor of Mendoza Province, had an acceptable outcome in the 8 September elections.

Alfredo Orgaz, from Cordoba, is also in the race as a follower of the Angeloz line.

Anyway, apart from the names that are being considered—representing different internal UCR positions and factions—there seems to be a point in common among the different lines: The next UCR president must be elected by a consensus of all the main party lines as the only means of ensuring his ability to lead a force that, in two years time, must recover its political potential if it truly wishes to compete in the 1995 elections.

The greatest difficulty for the Alfonsin line is the internal split that exists in Buenos Aires Province, where there are differing factions led by Juan Manuel Casella, Leopoldo Moreau, and Federico Storani, an Alfonsin follower who split away and founded his own line: the Opinion Faction, which has followers at the national level.

Casella, president of the Buenos Aires UCR Committee, will defend Januarena's candidacy for president of the National UCR Committee. Moreau will probably support Mario Losada. Storani may bet on Victor Fayad, with whom he maintains good political ties.

Yet another line supports the candidacy of Mario Negri. Two Buenos Aires members of the Jesus Rodriguez-headed Centenary Athenaeum faction, which opposes the De la Rua line, traveled to Cordoba last weekend just to talk to Vice Governor Negri.

Mario Losada, who is currently abroad, is supported by Ricardo Barrios Arrechea, the Misiones UCR leader, and UCR delegates from several provinces because he represents a man from the interior against those of the capital, who have almost always controlled the UCR.

Those who support this cause say that the next National Committee, which will head the party during a transition period, is an excellent opportunity for interior leaders to demonstrate their ability.

Given his prudence, Fernando de la Rua's moves are not known, but sooner or later his influence as chief of the winning radicalism in Buenos Aires Province will be felt.

For the time being, De la Rua has simply praised Alfonsin's gesture. His next moves, however, must be in keeping with his political objective: to become the next UCR presidential candidate.

While each faction and leader begins to take a position, the main expectation currently lies in the secret negotiations that will shape the Political Action Committee, which seems to be the place where the real power of the new UCR will lay.

* Implications of Election Results Evaluated

92SM0013A Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 10 Sep 91 p 7

[Report by Daniel Lupa]

[Text] Every election is useful for updating the dominant trends in society. Hence, the political content of each election is information for gauging the will of the people, and not so much the incidental success of a particular party or candidate.

For this reason, Sunday's election revealed, if there were any doubt, the inexorable civic determination to support change in the populist structures.

The agreement on the desire for change supersedes contradictory features in the speeches of some of the winners, subject to the test of their administration in the immediate future (even within just two years). All those who won on Sunday display the common denominator of backing the policy of change undertaken in 1989, differing only with regard to the way in which to carry it out.

Similarly, the results for each of the leading parties involved allow for an evaluation, based on the preliminary data, which is what is attempted in the following.

The Peronists

Would the Peronists have held such a vanguard election in the capital without the image and administration of Menem as a reinforcement?

The question is far more peremptory regarding concrete cases such as those of Santa Fe or Tucuman, because the candidates outside the party (Ramon Ortega or Carlos Reutemann) have acquired effectiveness and significance, after Menem's tactic of opening the Peronist lists to figures of very different backgrounds (a singer or an athlete). This confirms the desire for change, not only in the operation of the state and society, but also in the party itself, which has fostered the most classic and stringent populism.

The defeat of Ubaldini (the most resisted and extremist example of Peronist populism) is conclusive evidence that a district caudillism has not been imposed, but rather Menemism, as leverage for change.

After this election, Peronism began a journey virtually with no return, because this time (unlike what some suspected regarding the discrepancy between words and actions in 1989), there was no doubt about its direction and the target in its sights.

The Radicals

The Buenos Aires political-historical map reveals that the Radical Party has returned to its old electoral backers, who never exceeded 22-25 percent of the electorate.

This means that it has lost a kind of alliance which, in 1983, was spontaneously obstructed at the polls. It was believed that the candidate at that time would mark a turning point in history, and would carry out a progressive program that would prolong the economic and social changes begun in 1976-80. The thwarting (more precisely, the contradiction) of this hope caused the breaking of that alliance, and its transfer to an unexpected mode: the change headed by Menemism.

Hence, we should not be surprised at such a wretched vote for Doctor Pugliese who, visibly upset on election night, did not come up with a satisfactory explanation for his defeat.

The simplification claiming that the Radicals won only in the districts where there was a revolt against Alfonsin appears to be superseded by the results in Santa Fe or Entre Rios, of a magnitude similar to those suffered in Chubut, Santa Cruz, Mendoza, or Formosa. What has been defeated is not merely a party leadership: The disillusionment appears to be gravitating irrepressibly, and putting the Radical Party on hold while awaiting a decision that has not yet arrived.

The Left

It is possible that this election may be considered the greatest confirmation of the disintegration of the left, in the light of the communist dispersement in Eastern Europe. From Alende to Zamora, or Molinas, they all attest to the liquidation of the multiple fronts into which the personal ambitions of the principal quarreling leaders have become divided.

The so-called Socialist Unity in the capital accidentally benefited from the centrifugation of the Alfonsinist left and the divisions among the so-called human rights defenders, in an alliance with the Gramsci sector of the Socialist Cultural Center. The latter will thereby seat its first council member in the country (Jorge Raul Tula, if he finally obtains the necessary votes). However, this cannot be gauged as a necessary reflection of the overall performance of the left. Its displacement in a traditional stronghold such as Mar del Plata indicates that phenomenon as an incidental event.

The Center and Right

Does this crisis on the left mean a revitalization of the right? The considerable vote attained by Lieutenant Colonel Rico in Buenos Aires would prompt one to suppose that it does. However, General Bussi's simultaneous decline in Tucuman prompts doubts of its being a

generalized occurrence. The traditional Peronists (and the Nationalists who nurtured them) divided votes between Rico and Ubaldini, giving preference to the former. This was not the dichotomy that nurtured Bussi; therefore, the generalization does not seem correct.

The predictable severe UCD [Democratic Center Union] decline in the capital, in turn (Alsogaray barely achieved the vote enabling him to enter, probably without encouragement), due to the upset caused by the Alsogaray policy in the district, was not similar in Buenos Aires Province nor in Cordoba.

The presence of Alberto Albamonte in the Buenos Aires district, or that of Kammerath in Cordoba, different and distant from the Alsogaray movement's so "unliberal" personalism, enabled the UCD to maintain a stabilized (if not growing) political force in the mediterranean province. It is progressing in the control of important Buenos Aires municipalities, such as Mar del Plata, for example.

* Shift to Right Analyzed

92SM0013B Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 11 Sep 91 p 7

[Report by Carlos Manuel Acuna]

[Text] One of the most noteworthy results of the recent elections is the shift to the right adopted by Argentine society, even though that term defining a political position still evokes resistance among certain sectors of public thought and opinion, unlike what occurs in the more advanced countries.

In the first place, we should note that the left, in any of its manifestations, lost its position on the entire electoral map of the republic. This includes communism, the MAS [Movement Toward Socialism] Trotskyism, and the ideological superficiality of the former treasurer, Ricardo Molinas (in Santa Fe), as well as other small groups that scarcely appeared. All this is a conclusive reflection of the major changes occurring in the world.

There were certainly some exceptions, such as those of Jaimovich and Bravo, serving to confirm the rule and the forcefulness of certain vestiges of Argentina's party control traditions. Along general lines, however, that was the tendency, and certain figures with the extreme ideological viewpoint had to hide on certain lists. This occurred, for example, in the case of Patricia Bullrich, or the ex-member of the military, Miguel Angel Moreno (who went into retirement for belonging to the "33 Orientals" group). They ranked in fifth and ninth place on the Frejupe [Peronist Justicialist Front] capital list headed by Carlos Ruckauf. The latter was also backed by a progessive democratic group unknown in the district, a Patriotic Liberation Movement, evoking certain reminiscences, and a Social Democratic Party reminding us of Alfonsin and Cafiero.

Nevertheless, these are secondary details compared with an overall situation that also devoured a figure representative of the trade union movement; because Saul Ubaldini, once the great pope of strikes and work stoppages in the country, barely exceeded 1 percent of the vote in Buenos Aires Province.

UCD Fades

At the other extreme, the UCD [Democratic Center Union] liberalism began its decline, absorbed by the official party. This occurred especially from the time that the latter, in keeping with its doctrinal renewal, incorporated the UCD founder, Alvaro Alsogaray, his daughter, Maria Julia, and, more recently, Adelina Dalesio de Viola, following the line contrary to that of the captain engineer. As a result, a circuit very difficult to break was closed.

The success achieved in Mar del Plata, in the form of recognition for the ex-superintendent of the Process, Mario Russak, and Alsogaray's "abrasive" reentry into Congress do not change this picture. From now on, things will stand in accordance with the preliminary features, which we shall cite later, with a view toward the future.

UCR, a Provincial Party

The overwhelming victory of the official party (of the government, to be even more exact) relegated the Radical Party to a declining second place. The credit for this is shared with Raul Alfonsin, inasmuch as he strove to accuse Menemism of being conservative, as if it were a sin; as well as attempting to adopt a decidedly opposing role based on a decrepit angle of the ideology. This is something more than a detail, because the plummeting loss of votes (besides the shock in Santa Fe, where even Uzandizaga himself was defeated by Reutemann), in fact, put the Radical Party, with or without the addition of the Social Democrats, in the role of a provincial party with headquarters in Cordoba Province. There, Alfonsin's internal political enemy, Eduardo Angeloz, won a victory defining him, henceforth, as one of the two spokesmen (Fernando de la Rua is the other) who will be accredited to negotiate with the government. Consequently, this new positioning of the party chessmen could or should affect Alfonsin's strange ambition to be reelected again, and for two years, as chairman of the UCR [Radical Civic Union] national committee.

Of course, all this remains to be seen; but, in fact, these components of the political panorama should be very carefully considered, especially when probing or discerning new positions to be assumed regarding the future.

The Community Unions

Another noteworthy element for this future is the role played by the community unions, which in Buenos Aires won several dozen council seats and five superintendencies (Exaltacion de la Cruz, Tigre, Pilar, Lujan, and Pinamar). With respect to the latter three, certain important factors should be noted, such as the fact that, in Pilar, it was the community union that supported the administration of

deputy commissioner Patti. In Lujan, the superintendent-elect has an 18-year record for holding the position; and in Pinamar, considered the "summer's political window," the community union not only won the superintendency, but all the council seats as well.

Toward Two Neo-Conservative Groups

A separate comment is fitting on the success accrued by Aldo Rico's Modin [Movement of Dignity and Independence], which inflicted a defeat not only on the skeptics, but also on the political market research experts who, up until a few hours before the election, awarded it only a publicized 4 percent.

The fact that it exceeded 10 percent (a figure that will increase when the problem of challenging ballots is solved) speaks clearly of the birth of a new political structure. It is intended to become established in Buenos Aires (the epicenter of our politics), to expand in the Federal Capital, and to become installed or reinforced, first in San Luis, Entre Rios, Rio Negro, La Pampa, and Cordoba, and later in other provinces. It contains a still heterogeneous component, which should overcome a forced opposition front in nearly all the news media, and the lack of treasurers and funds. It will also put into practice a more than original method in the campaign, consisting of an organized, direct cor tact with the voters.

Rico received votes from groups ranging from independents and conservatives to Peronists, UCD members lacking confidence in Albamonte, and disgruntled Radicals who, apparently, are very numerous.

However, several conclusions may be drawn from the results of this veritable explosion, already with a view toward 1993; especially if we agree that the government, affirmed in its policy, also absorbed different ideological and partisan persuasions.

In brief, and to conclude for today, it is fitting to assess that one of Sunday's consequences is the virtual disappearance (or the start of that process) of the old party control structures, the internal landslide in the Radical Party toward the right, the emergence of Menemism as an expression of a popular, neo-liberal, neo-conservatism, and the eruption of "Ricoism" on the scene. The latter appears as a representative of a different neo-conservatism, with more of a nationalist accent, heading in the populist direction. Hence, ultimately, and to summarize very briefly, the two old movements that always existed within Argentine society from its dawning are beginning to be discerned with new trappings.

* All Privatizations To Be Completed in 1992

91SM0498C Buenos Aires AMBITO FINANCIERO in Spanish 16 Aug 91 p 7

[Text] The national cabinet heard a report yesterday from Minister of Economy Domingo Cavallo about the government decision to complete the process of privatization before the end of 1992. Also, "by consensus," it approved the cancellation of the contract with France for the purchase of new identity documents.

This announcement was made by Cavallo himself at the end of the meeting held at Government House between 0910 and 1210. On that occasion, he said that before the end of next year, "there should be no type of business activity left in the hands of the state."

Cavallo announced the intention of the government "to transfer 100 percent of the railroads to the private sector before 1992, as well as all of the enterprises involved in generating thermoelectric power and distributing electricity."

He said that in the course of next year, "100 percent of the gas must be transferred to the private sector, and progress will be made in privatizing in the YPF [Government Oil Deposits] and on the issue of the ports and the ELMA [Argentine Shipping Lines], which will be transferred to the private sector before the end of this year."

Cavallo also discussed the transfer of the mint to the private sector, and he said that "by the end of 1992, practically no kind of business activity should still be in the hands of the state, much less should a public budget contribution be required for deficit financing."

The minister of economy spoke about the controversy concerning the contract with France for new national identity documents, noting that Minister of Interior Jose Luis Manzano had explained the reasons it was deemed desirable to cancel this operation.

He said that the entire cabinet agreed with the view of the minister, for which reason this contract will be cancelled.

Cavallo added that in the future, in addition to the coparticipation funds expected from the provinces, "we will manage the tax policy in such a way as to ensure a very substantial increase in resources in the coming year, and thus it will be possible to finance the activities that are their responsibility."

He added that "what we want is for the provinces to assume the responsibility for providing services such as health and education directly to their own populations, but we are going to discuss all of this with the respective governments."

On the subject of reducing expenditures on the national level, he cited as an example "the development of the fiscal accounts in 1991." However, he emphasized that "we still have much to do, and therefore we are working actively on drafting next year's budget."

"It is essential that there be no need for treasury contributions to finance the deficits of the state enterprises, because this will free resources so that they can be channeled into health, education, social security, and justice—that is to say, the specific functions of the state," Cavallo said in conclusion.

Enterprise	Status of the Privatization Process	Planned Transfer Date
SEGBA*	The technical and financial consultants are drafting the bidding forms. The offer will be made in January 1992.	May 1992.
Thermoelectric Power Plants	The congressional law approving the sale is pending. The government would like to schedule bidding for October. This will not be possible unless it decides to effect it by decree.	Unknown as yet.
State Gas	Consultants are at work, but the terms and conditions are unclear. Much depends on the draft law establishing the regulatory framework which the Congress is amending.	During 1992, the trunk gas pipelines and the distribution sectors will be transferred by province.
Sanitary Projects	The selection of consultants is being completed. The bidding form will be ready early in 1992.	June 1992.
ELMA**	The SIGEP*** is in charge of the appraisal. The government decided very recently on total privatization. It is estimated that the solicitation of bids will begin at the end of the year.	Expected toward the middle of 1992.
YPF	Congressional law pending. It is believed that privatization will be effected in stages.	Would begin in the first quarter of 1992.
Railroads		
Urquiza	Will remain pending if the bidding is declared null and void, or if it is awarded to the consortium headed by Renfe.	No probable date can be foreseen as yet.
Mitre and San Martin	The envelopes containing bids will be opened on the 21st of this month.	January-February 1992.
Subways	The bidding plan is being completed. Bidding will begin with Mitre, Urquiza, and the underground lines.	The first lot will be transferred at the beginning of 1992, and the other lines at intervals of tree months, with a view to completion in December of that year.

*[Greater Buenos Aires Electrical Services]

**[Argentine Shipping Lines]

***[General Syndicate of State Enterprises]

Based on the statements made by Cavallo yesterday, transfers to the private sector prior to the end of 1992 will affect, in addition to these enterprises, the SOMISA [Argentine Iron and Steel Joint Association], the petrochemical enterprises, and the defense enterprises, for which approval by congressional law has not been granted, and slow progress is being made in the choice of consultants and the definition of their specific tasks.

* Gas Pipeline Projects Under Way in Mendoza

92SM0002A Buenos Aires AMBITO FINANCIERO in Spanish 9 Sep 91 p 30

[Text] After long unsuccessful negotiations on the feasibility of constructing industrial gas pipelines in the central and southern regions of our province, the provincial executive branch approved, through decree No. 2645 of 23 October 1989, the construction of industrial gas pipelines of benefit to the province, making the Ministry of Economics and the Ministry of Works and Public Services responsible for completing them, and instructing Energia Mendoza SE [EMSE] on the responsibilities that the law of creation confers upon it in terms of planning, programming, executing, and operating the aforementioned installations.

All of the gas works facilities will remain the property of the province, to be administered for the nation as a whole, which is a new policy with no prior precedent in the province.

In fulfilling the first part of the decree, the Ministry of Economics and the Ministry of Works and Public Services through the EMSE have prioritized and determined to implement the following pipelines:

San Rafael-Rama Caida Alvear-Bowen Valle de Uco III Tramo (Tunuyan-San Carlos)

A feasibility study for other areas of the provincial territory, such as Real del Padre, Tupungato, Capitan Montoya, Canada Seca, was also called for.

In fulfillment of the second part of the provincial decree and after long and complicated maneuvers, which in many cases threatened to seriously compromise the law's approval, primarily because of the unprecedented nature of such activities in the industrial sector and because of the deregulation and privatization policy the national government is carrying out in the gas sector, the agreement was signed on 13 June 1991, with the objective of ensuring large quantities of gas supplies and the province's ownership, operation, maintenance and commercial exploitation of the facilities (Energia Mendoza SE).

This fact constitutes an extremely important first step for the province, which for the first time is providing partial gas service, and which intends in all fairness to extend it throughout the entire territory, as it has requested of the national government, thanks to the preexisting agreements and investments it made in this sector. The latter in no way implies the transformation of a national enterprise into a provincial one, so long as the government's policy favors the decentralization of municipalities, cooperatives, and/or private entities, reserving for itself the exercise of the powers of police, granting authority and planning to the extent that these involve essential public services affecting the people's quality of life and are fundamental cornerstones for the economic development of the productive apparatus.

- These gas pipelines are similar in a certain way to "the railroad" when it was first built. They are a formal wager on the future and an indispensable cornerstone for attaining development and growth in Mendoza.
- The implementation of these works was analyzed, basing the decision to construct them not only on economic results or their profitability, but also on those intangible functions such as the provision of this essential public service.
- The provincial government thus fulfills an historic commitment to aspects of a social, cultural, developmental and a strictly judicial nature, with which the inhabitants may, in one way or another, contribute daily to achieving a better future.
- These works have been carried out on the basis of a certain amount of special imagination, in assigning scarce resources in due measure and with specific criteria, thus permitting improvement in the quality of life of Mendocinos who until a short time ago had no access to this service, and generating new jobs, two of the most worthy means of contributing to and improving the lot of our fellow provincial inhabitants.

1.1. Description of the industrial gas pipelines completed:

1.1.a) San Rafael-Rama Caida Gas Pipeline:
-Investment: $1 million
-Date Begun: 23 August 1990
-Date Completed: 30 March 91
-Length: 23,505 meters
-Industrial Users: 21
-Estimated Consumption: 14,800,000 cubic meters per year
-Potential Domestic Users: 5,300
-Current Status: Complete

1.1.b) Alvear - Bowen Gas Pipeline:
-Investment: $1.5 million
-Date Begun: 23 August 1990
-Date Completed 30 April 1991
-Length: 45,550 meters
-Industrial Users: 40
-Estimated Consumption: 10,900,000 cubic meters per year
-Potential Domestic Users: 2,390
-Current Status: Complete

1.2. Contracts Awarded

1.2.a) Valle de Uco III Tramo Gas Pipeline (Tunayan-Vista Flores-Campo Los Andes-La Consulta-Eugenio Bustos-San Carlos):
-Awarded in parts (including Value Added Tax [VAT] to December 1990)

- Pipeline Acquisition: $1,260,000
- Pipeline Renovation: $396,000
- Assembly: $1,379,000
- Total:$3,035,000

-Specifications: A length of 53 km was originally specified, generally following the course of Provincial Route 92. A technical alternative was presented in the proposal ultimately selected, which meant that a branch along National Route 40 was added to the original route, with a lesser diameter pipeline, resulting in a length of 70 km, with technical and economic advantages over the original plan.

-Current Status: Awarded for initial implementation

-Length: 70, 570 meters - Industrial users: 15, plus two industrial parks

-Estimated Consumption: 14,300,000 cubic meters per year

-Potential Domestic Users: 5,100

1.3. Licensing Process

1.3.a) Real del Padre Gas Pipeline (Department of San Rafael) December 1990 Official Budget: $500,000 (including VAT)
-Length: 13,700 meters
-Period: 4 months
-Current EMSE Status: Project formulation and drafting of the terms
-Current Status at the National Level: negotiations for incorporating it into the agreement signed with Gas del Estado and the National Fuel Subsecretariat fall under the framework of Resolution SE 144, which ensures the Province's ownership and right to commercial exploitation.

2. Advantages of substituting gas for liquid fuel. More important advantages than mere economics and price differences can be cited, such as:

- The cleanliness of gas combustion compared to liquid fuel
- Immediate availability
- Eliminates storage and maintenance
- Eliminates freight
- Payment over time, compared to immediate payment for liquid fuel
- Eliminates the inconvenience of scarce fuel by putting the refineries to their most efficient use
- Greater yield of the final product by eliminating fuel residuals
- Possibility of conforming the product's quality requirements to those of the external market
- Increased production of fruits and vegetables

Bolivia

FAB Plane Hijacked; Drug Trafficking Suspected

PY1410130691 La Paz Radio Fides Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 14 Oct 91

[Text] The Bolivian Air Force [FAB] admitted yesterday that one of its airplanes was hijacked on 11 October only five minutes before landing in Trinidad. Although Colonel Guido Aracelan, commander of the 62d Air Group, and the rest of the officers of this air group have avoided the media, a journalist who said he had talked to the colonel reported that Aracelan confirmed the disappearance of the airplane.

According to unofficial reports, the small airplane bearing license No. FAB-244 and piloted by Lieutenant Jose Lara was hijacked on 11 October at 0850. The pilot was attacked by the only passenger, who had boarded the plane in Rurrenabaque an hour earlier. Given the silence maintained by the FAB in this case, the name of the person who hired the plane to fly from Trinidad to Rurrenabaque [as heard] that day to carry the passenger who turned out to be a hijacker is not known.

Lt. Jose Lara was seriously injured in the head. He was taken to Cochabamba on the afternoon of 11 October after being picked up somewhere on the road between San Ignacio and Trinidad. He is currently receiving special medical attention in Cochabamba.

Reportedly, the FAB is investigating the hijacker's destination on its own. According to Umopar [Rural Area Police Patrol Unit] sources, it is thought that the hijacking of the small plane is connected with drug trafficking. It is thought that the small plane may be used to transport cocaine, as is frequently the case in neighboring Brazil.

As reported in Trinidad, the hijacked FAB-244 small plane is the same one that was confiscated by Umopar in San Borja last June after the discovery, through a chemical test, of traces of drugs on board. The small plane, which then bore license No. CP-1855, belongs to the Quiteras family of San Borja, who are claiming it although they deny drug trafficking charges.

Hijacked Plane Recovered

PY1610124891 La Paz Radio Fides Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 Oct 91

[Report from Santa Cruz]

[Text] The small plane belonging to the Bolivian Air Force [FAB] which was hijacked last 11 October by an alleged crazy man, was recovered yesterday.

The 62d Air Group command reported that the plane was found at a landing strip in Ballivian Province, near San Borja, where it had been abandoned by the hijacker. Reportedly, the plane landed in Trinidad at about midday yesterday. The report states that the hijacker, who is called Jorge Suarez Basadre, or Tito, has a pending 4-year prison sentence for having hijacked another small plane last year in Trinidad.

The FAB said that this episode will force it to be more careful when hiring its airplanes.

Drug Trafficking, Corruption Offices Created

PY1610144891 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 6 Oct 91 Section 2 p 7

[Text] Sucre, 5 Oct (PRESENCIA)—Within the framework of the state modernization plan, the government has issued a decree creating two assistant attorney general's offices, one to deal with drug trafficking matters and the other to fight corruption.

Attorney General Angel Baldivieso has told PRESENCIA that the government has also granted autonomy to the attorney general's office.

Decree No. 22913, states that "the government seeks to modernize the state by restructuring the administration; by adjusting state institutions, making them more effective, democratic, and of service to the people; and by improving the administration of justice."

"Until the Organic Law of the Attorney General's Office is approved and promulgated, as specified in Article 131 of the Constitution, as of today the Attorney General's Office shall enjoy managerial, administrative, technical, juridical, economical, and financial autonomy (...), in an effort to improve state efficiency; to fight corruption; and to guarantee the appropriate administration of justice."

"The following subordinate offices are hereby created to support the Attorney General's office: The Assistant Attorney General's Office for Moralization and the Assistant Attorney General's Office for Narcotics and Controlled Substances. The assistant attorney generals will, for the time being, be designated by the attorney general (...) as of this date, the Attorney General's Office will have its own budget, provided by the National Treasury and by international cooperation funds."

Military Efforts in Antinarcotics Plan Reviewed

PY1210152891

[Editorial Report] La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish on 5 October on page 5 publishes articles on the reaction to the armed forces participation in the counternarcotics struggle.

A 400-word article entitled "The Ruling Party Justifies Army's Participation in the Antinarcotics Fight" states: "The government's approval of the Armed Forces participation in the counternarcotics struggle was wholeheartedly supported by the ruling political forces."

It adds: "On Behalf of the Political Accord, ADN [Nationalist Democratic Action] Deputy Chief Guillermo Fortun said that the intervention of army units in

dragnet operations carried out to search for drug traffickers is part of the Bolivian Government's antidrug struggle."

The article states that Fortun reasserted the government's stance on this issue. He added: "The government's antidrug policy is based on three main pillars: the alternative development of crops; drug prevention; and drug interdiction."

The article continues that Fortun, who is also Senate president, described as irresponsible plans to hold malfeasance trials.

The report also includes comments made on this issue by Gonzalo Mercado, the chairman of the Chamber of Deputies Committee on the Antinarcotis Struggle. Mercado said that the Army's involvement in the antinarcotics fight is an exlusive attribution of the executive branch.

Mercado said that the troops will not engage in direct contact with coca producers and that their action will be restricted to inaccessible and unpopulated areas.

A 200-word article entitled "U.S. Pressure Hastened the Decision" states that Gaston Encinas, the president of the Chamber of Deputies, expressed his complete rejection of and concern over the Army's involvement in the antidrug struggle. The article adds that he also questioned the U.S. Government's pressure to hasten this decision.

The article states that Encinas believes the Armed Forces intervention in the antinarcotics fight contradicts the government's peaceful antinarcotics struggle, which was implemented through the so-called 'repentance law.' After stating that he criticized "foreign pressures" and praising the positive results yielded by this peaceful struggle, Encinas regretted that the Bolivian Government has been pressured to involve the Army in the antidrug struggle precisely when its original plan was having positive results. He also stated the Bolivian Congress will express its support for the government's sovereign policy.

The item concludes by stating: "Encinas also said that Bolivian legislators will demand that the U.S. Government 'fulfill the commitments it has assumed.'" He also regretted that the measures adopted are not in keeping with previously signed U.S.- Bolivian agreements granting aid to Bolivia to promote the alternative development of its crops and to replace an economy based on coca farming.

The third and last article totalling 500 words is entitled "Opposition Unanamously Condemns Militarization of Antidrug Fight." It reads: "The opposition forces represented in congress have unanimously condemned and rejected the government's decision to involve the armed forces in the antinarcotics fight. They added that this contradicts the positive results achieved through the 'repentance law' which seeks a political solution to this evil."

The article adds that the opposition forces noted that the Army's presence in conflict areas will generate uncontrollable violence and will promote the action of irregular armed groups because the Army will extend its actions to coca producing areas.

It states that the opposition legislators said "the militarization is tantamount to a submissive attitude because it has yielded to U.S. Government pressure, which 'has imposed' this precondition to its offerring of economic aid." They said this shows the government's inability to negotiate and signifies "an abandonment of the alternative development theory."

The article immediately views the position the different opposition blocs have adopted on this issue. It states that Antonio Aranbiar, leader of the Free Bolivia Movement, MBL, bloc, questioned the government's decision, which was described as "criminal and shameful because it shows the Bolivian Government's servile attitude toward U.S. policy." He added that this will only generate a generalized violence. For its part, Deputy Javier Campero Paz, member of the Nationalist Revolutionary Movement, MNR, reasserted his complete opposition to the militarization of the antinarcotics fight because it will lead to uncontrollable violence. The MNR deputy questioned the government's decision, which he says was adopted in view of U.S. Government pressure.

According to Deputy Andres Soliz Rada, of the Conscience of the Fatherland, CONDEPA, the militarization of the drug fight is tantamount to the Bolivian Government's submission to "foreign dictates which are above Bolivian interests." He added that the government is resorting to a measure that will create a situation that may explode at any time. He said the government should implement the alternative development policy and the industrialization of coca leaves. The CONDEPA deputy added that the participation of the army in the antidrug struggle has failed in other countries.

The article concludes by stating that Deputy Gregorio Lanza, of the United Left, IU, stated that "to authorize special army units to carry out antidrug dragnet operations 'shows the incoherence' of the government's antidrug policy." He said this decision, which was imposed by U.S. Government pressure, will cause social unrest of unforeseeable consequences. He also expressed his surprise over this decision because the 'repentance law' has yielded positive results.

Rueda Pena Criticizes Press Coverage on Drugs

PY1210135891 La Paz Television Boliviana Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 12 Oct 91

[Text] Information Minister Mario Rueda Pena has deplored that some editorialists deliberately refuse to admit the success of antidrug operations in Santa Cruz Department.

Santa Cruz newspapers, with front page headlines and pictures, have confirmed the success of the military-police operation performed in northeastern Santa Cruz, thus endorsing the remarks by Minister Pena. The mass media accredited to government house, however, expressed doubt about the information released by the minister.

The impartial attitude of the Santa Cruz press regarding a fact that was also known to the media of the capital, was in contrast with the attitude of the La Paz press. In fact, the La Paz newspapers either ignored or quietly published a report that Santa Cruz morning newspapers published today with banner headlines.

The report refers to the discovery and destruction of what seems to have been the largest cocaine factory—after Huanchaca—ever built in the vicinity of San Matias. Illegal airstrips and modern equipment for the production of cocaine were also destroyed. The factory produced 100 kg of very pure cocaine each week.

These achievements led Minister Pena to say that the main pillar of drug trafficking in that Bolivian region was destroyed.

Asked by reporters to make a final evaluation, Pena said this morning that everything that had to be said has already been said. It was a success, he noted, as is shown by the weight of facts, to the dismay of the embittered enemies of the antidrug fight. He said that some of those enemies are opposition politicians who are pursuing specific sectarian objectives, while others are journalists who have suddenly adhered to the unrealistic idea of refusing to fight drug trafficking, advocating instead the legalization of the production, sale, and consumption of drugs.

* Ores Continue To Lead Country's Exports

92SM0011B La Paz HOY in Spanish 15 Sep 91 p 6

[Text] Ore exports are still by far the leading category of Bolivian exports, accounting for 44 percent of the total volume exported.

According to 1990 data, the ore industry's exports amounted to approximately $407 million. This was nearly double the figure for hydrocarbon exports, which were valued at $227 million, representing 24.4 percent of Bolivia's total exports during that period.

Nontraditional exports underwent a substantial increase exceeding those of hydrocarbons.

Nontraditional products brought income totaling $292 million, accounting for 31.5 percent of Bolivian exports in 1990.

During the 5-year period 1985-90, growth and recovery were noted in ore exports. They rose from $263.7 million in 1985 to $403 million in 1989, and up to $407 million in 1990.

Spectacular growth was also registered by nontraditional exports. In 1985 they amounted to approximately $34.2 million, accounting for only 5 percent of total exports. By 1989 they had already reached a value of $204 million (25 percent of the total), and by 1990, $292 million.

On the other hand, hydrocarbon exports suffered a persistent decline in value during the 5-year interval from 1985 to 1990. During 1985 they generated income of $374.5 million, equivalent to 56 percent of all exports. By 1989 they had declined to $214 million, and in 1990, to $227 million.

Exports of Goods

Year	Ores		Hydrocarbons		Nontraditional		
	Millions US$	Percent	Millions US$	Percent	Millions US$	Percent	Totals US$
1980	641.13	61.87	254.13	23.66	149.93	14.47	1036.19
1981	556.05	55.87	346.49	34.81	92.76	9.32	995.3
1982	419.35	46.69	398.41	44.36	80.42	8.9[illegible]	898.18
1983	347.3	42.49	420.06	51.39	50.08	6.13	817.44
1984	364.04	46.55	388.91	49.73	29.17	3.73	782.12
1985	263.76	39.22	374.51	55.69	34.27	5.10	672.54
1986	196.82	30.86	332.52	52.13	108.51	17.01	637.85
1987	207.17	36.38	256.06	44.96	106.3	18.66	569.53
1988	273.06	45.49	218.92	36.47	108.23	18.03	600.21
1989	403.43	49.09	214	26.04	204.34	24.87	821.77
1990	407.14	43.94	226.94	24.49	292.47	31.57	926.55

Brazil

IMF To Approve Plan To Stabilize Economy

PY1410190691 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 11 Oct 91 Section One p 4

[Report by Jose Roberto Campos]

[Text] The IMF is ready to approve another program—the 10th since 1983—to stabilize the Brazilian economy. Michel Camdessus, IMF director, stated that the IMF is ready to approve the program and to conclude an agreement on it by early December. The package of measures being negotiated with the IMF has not been disclosed by the government, but it seems that the pill will once again be bitter. Camdessus said on 10 October that any agreement with the IMF "implies difficulties and suffering." He added: "Adjustment means effort."

A maximum devaluation of the cruzeiro to stop the money exchange crisis and a major utility rate increase that is gradually implemented in order to resolve the financial situation of state enterprises will probably be part of the program agreed upon by the IMF. There is something else: a decision to quickly stop the inflationary explosion.

Central Bank President Francisco Gros said that what the IMF accepts is a triple proposal by the government: privatizations, tax reform, and fiscal adjustment through the "big amendment." Gros added: "It is still up to society to accept this proposal." The three points have been answered, either through judicial proceedings (privatizations) or by Congress, to whom Gros' message was addressed.

According to a survey by the Chamber of Deputies Technical Advisory Committee, the Collor administration will lose 3 trillion cruzeiros in 1992 (at the August 1991 rate) due to tax exemptions and reductions while it is presenting the projects for financial reorganization of the state to the IMF. Fiscal benefits to be granted primarily to owners of sugar mills and to the Manaus duty-free zone will absorb almost half of the resources that the government seeks to save with fiscal reform (6.3 trillion cruzeiros) and at least double the profit to be gained from the auction of Minas Gerais Iron and Steel Mills, Inc.

Along with the difficulty of gaining approval for his proposals in Congress, Collor is also facing criticism from Rio de Janeiro Governor Leonel Brizola. Both met in Brasilia on 9 October. At the end of the meeting, saying that he wanted to preserve the "president's image," Brizola resorted to his usual tactic: Asking for ministerial reform. He said: "The teams can be replaced."

* AEB Head Explains Drop in Country's Exports

92SM0018D Sao Paulo GAZETA MERCANTIL in Portuguese 25 Sep 91 p 6

[Report by Rio de Janeiro correspondent Livia Ferrari]

[Text] The President of the Foreign Trade Association of Brazil (AEB), Marcus Vinicius Pratini de Moraes, thinks that although a matter for concern, the slackening pace of Brazilian exports—"which should also be evident in August and September"—should not surprise people, because of three basic factors: the decline in international prices and the volumes of shipments of certain agricultural commodities such as soybeans and orange juice concentrate; loss of competitiveness of Brazilian manufactured products owing to lack of financing; and the economic recession in the United States, our single biggest market.

Pratini de Moraes emphasized that "During the first half of this year, the United States (including Puerto Rico) absorbed 19.7 percent of total Brazilian exports; in the same period of last year that percentage was 25 percent. Brazilian manufactured goods, which accounted for 55 percent of American imports from Brazil, have now fallen to 52 percent." He also recalled that the 6.96 percent increase in total Brazilian exports during the first six months of 1991 is explained mainly by an increase in sales of semi-manufactured goods (having lower aggregate value) such as raw aluminum (up 48.41 percent in value), and iron and steel (40.34 percent higher).

In his opinion, despite the recent introduction of the Export Financing Program (Proex) funded by the National Treasury, Brazilian foreign sales of capital goods are unlikely to recover in the remaining months of 1991. "It is only now, after the definition of Proex, that exporters will resume making their contacts to sell machinery and equipment that, because of the length of their production cycle, cannot be shipped until 1992," he said, noting that AEB projections call for a trade balance this year of between $10 and $11 billion.

The president of the Brazilian Association of Export Trading Companies (Abece), Roberto Fendt Junior, also cites the shortage of financing for exports of capital goods as a primary reason for the decline in sales of manufactured goods during the first half of this year. Although the index of prices for Brazilian exports of manufactured goods recorded an increase of 1.26 percent between January and July, volumes shipped declined by 2.5 percent, which explains the retraction of 0.84 percent in exchange earnings from those goods. According to Fendt, those figures attest to the competitiveness problems created for the capital goods sector by abolition of the Finex (export financing program) in October 1990.

In Pratini de Moraes' opinion, the absence of financing, which had the most serious repercussions beginning in the first four months of the year, (until then, the sector was still using the last vestiges of the Finex) also explains the slowed pace of exchange contract operations, one indicator of the future trend of actual exports.

Oil Supply Contract Renewed With Iran

PY1210144091 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 12 Oct 91

[Report by Vera Lucia Canfran]

[Text] Brazil has renewed its contract with Iran for the purchase of 180,000 barrels of oil a day. The transaction was completed during Infrastructure Minister Joao Santana's visit to Tehran.

According to Flavio Saffa, Infrastructure Ministry adviser for international affairs, the advantages of the contract are that the payment of oil interests will be made in 40 days instead of 30. Thanks to that, Brazil will save $3.5 million a month. In addition, the country obtained a $0.50 discount per barrel and, of the $324,000 the country spends on the import of Iranian oil, Brazil will now save $9,000 a day.

The government will thus save a total of $3.8 million a month in its purchase of Iranian oil.

* Santana Views Results of IAEA Conference

92WP0005Z Sao Paulo GAZETA MERCANTIL in Portuguese 26 Sep 91 pp 1, 20

[Article by Sao Paulo correspondent Luis Leonel]

[Text] The bilateral safeguards agreement signed by Brazil and Argentina two months ago in Guadalajara, Mexico permitting mutual verification of their nuclear facilities is encouraging countries that traditionally have stubbornly resisted any kind of inspection of their nuclear facilities to agree to monitoring by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

South Africa signed the international safeguard documents last week during the IAEA's 35th annual conference. South Africa had been one of the countries that was viewed with mistrust by the international community for pursuing a nuclear program that was beyond the reach of any kind of control and, in theory, capable of producing nuclear warfare devices.

North and South Korea and the Middle Eastern nations, also firmly opposed to any monitoring of their nuclear plants until recently, are now discussing whether or not to accept the IAEA safeguards. "By their willingness to open their installations to international controls, (Brazil and Argentina are to sign international safeguards agreements in the next few months) the two countries have pointed others in the same direction," said Jose Luiz Santana de Carvalho, president of the National Commission for Nuclear Energy (CNEN), who presided over the IAEA conference this year.

Brazil and Argentina were considered as paradigms of countries that conducted nuclear programs with a view to strengthening their position on the regional scene. Military men in the two countries—traditional rivals in the economic and military fields—were accustomed to keeping their eyes on their neighbor and reporting every step taken, in order to demand funds from their own governments for covert investment in the nuclear area under the allegation of a need for "strategic security."

South Africa, isolated on the black African continent, resorted to the same sort of argument. Likewise, the instability of the Middle East made that argument readily acceptable to the governments of Israel and the Arab countries. South Korea also competed with its neighbor to the north in boosting investments in the nuclear area and in keeping secret what it was doing.

The suspicion hanging over all those countries was that they were pursuing nuclear programs that had a military objective.

"By signing the IAEA safeguards conditions, they have dispelled that suspicion," Santana said. Brazil, along with Argentina, was supposed to have signed the international agency's safeguards papers during the 35th Conference. "We were ready to sign, but members of the agency were still studying the model version we were going to use," Santana explained. Brazil and Argentina, unlike other signatories to IAEA safeguards, are submitting their facilities to inspection but keeping their technological, industrial, and commercial secrets intact. Santana gave assurances that signature of the IAEA international safeguards by the two countries should occur before the end of the year.

Inspectors from the agency will monitor the nuclear materials processed by Brazil and their fuel cycle, but not inspect the machinery and equipment that perform that operation. It is as if they will examine the raw uranium that enters Brazilian facilities and later, look at the enriched uranium that leaves them. From the degree of enrichment and the quality of the material produced, they can determine whether Brazil is capable of making, or is making, devices for warfare. Brazil enriches uranium to 20 percent at the Aramar center in Ipero, Sao Paulo State, which belongs to the Navy. Uranium has to be enriched to 90 percent to make a nuclear bomb.

This type of safeguard creates a demilitarized zone in South America in terms of nuclear weapons. Signing of a similar commitment by South Africa (without restrictions, since there the controls also cover technological, industrial, and commercial aspects) creates a peace zone in Africa. The next step is to create demilitarized zones in the Middle East and on the Korean peninsula.

The nations of the Middle East—except Iraq—will also adopt a special safeguards model. IAEA members are debating what that model will be like. The two Koreas are discussing the terms of their respective safeguards under the IAEA aegis. "In less than a year, regions that have been refusing for more than 30 years to sign the agency safeguards are demilitarizing themselves," said Santana. This is an historic conference."

Of the countries that traditionally have been reluctant to agree to the IAEA safeguards, only India and Pakistan are still resisting the idea. "These are the called balls," Santana said in a reference to pool, where the called ball is the next one to fall into the pocket. According to him, neither of the two countries are yet talking about signing the energy use commitment that would place their

nuclear facilities under international control but, "international pressure will soon force them into it."

The 80 members of the Conference passed a motion condemning Iraq for developing and using nuclear weapons. They demanded that Iraq submit both its official and parallel facilities to international controls. Another important decision by the conference was to admit the Baltic countries (Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia) as permanent members of the IAEA.

Brazil was selected to preside over the 35th Conference (held in Vienna, Austria, from 16-20 September) because of the importance in the demilitarization process of the commitments signed jointly with Argentina. "All the delegates stressed the importance of the Brazil/Argentina accords in reducing regional tensions," the CNEN president explained.

Negotiations between Brazil and Argentina in the nuclear field began during ex-President Jose Sarney's administration, when he visited Argentina and toured its nuclear plant at Embalse, in Cordoba Province, accompanied by then-President of Argentina Raul Alfonsin. Soon afterward, Alfonsin came to Brazil to see its nuclear facilities. Secrets that both countries had always kept under lock and key were beginning to come to light.

On 28 November 1990, President Fernando Collor signed a document that established a nuclear bookkeeping system between the two countries. Three months later France, and then China, expressed intentions to sign the Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

Status of Constitutional Amendments Reported

PY1710025091 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2300 GMT 16 Oct 91

[Excerpt] The constitutional amendments that the government has submitted to Congress will not be approved this year. Only some of them will be analyzed.

Leaders of all parties had lunch today with House Speaker Ibsen Pinheiro. During an informal meeting after lunch they talked about the vote on the government-sponsored constitutional amendments. Party leaders made it clear to Pinheiro that only some of the amendments can be approved this year.

[Begin Pinheiro recording] Some major topics could be addressed even faster, but attention will focus on fiscal adjustment and modernization of the economy. [end recording]

Next week the government project will go through its first test in Congress. The Justice Committee will rule on whether the amendments are in keeping with the law and the Constitution. Five committees will be created to debate and vote on the various amendments. [passage omitted]

Retired General Criticizes Government, Congress

PY1610115291 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 11 Oct 91 p 5

[Text] Belo Horizonte—General Jose Lopes Braganca, retired, published yesterday an open letter entitled " A Government That Does Not Govern" in the leading newspapers of Minas Gerais State. In his letter, Lopes harshly criticizes the federal government and complains about the loss of purchasing power of military salaries.

Lopes stated: "The people should not allow the tycoons of the legislative branch to make laws that suit their personal interests."

In his letter, the 72-year-old general added: "Laws should never be made by thieves who hit each other whevener they are trying to determine who among them is a less dangerous criminal." Lopes, who already led several nationalist movements in Minas Gerais, has been charged with heading anticommunist paramilitary groups.

Lopes claims to have paid for the open letter himself. He regrets "the end of the hopes prompted by the recent elections."

He also accuses senators and deputies of being concerned only about "increasing their incomes and their privileges," and of neglecting the workers. In his letter the general calls for "more community spirit" through which he expects to unite "all those who seek to condemn the state of calamity that prevails in Brazil today."

Chile

President Aylwin's Assessment Meeting Reviewed

PY1610172091 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Political commentary by Patricia Politzer]

[Text] On 13 October, the issue of political prisoners was discussed during the meeting that President Aylwin held with his aides at La Moneda Palace. Speaking about human rights during this meeting, President Aylwin told his aides that the issue of political prisoners continues to be a thorny problem for his government.

Before reviewing the issues discussed during last Sunday's meeting it must be noted that the president's men, and the few women who attended this meeting, were surprised at how Aylwin led the meeting. Everyone thought the president's participation would be restricted to his delivery of an opening statement and that later he would withdraw from the meeting. Instead, he attended the entire meeting. Moreover, he personally chaired all sessions.

As for the issues discussed, those present were also surprised by the clarity with which the president discussed certain issues. For example, when speaking about

the Armed Forces, he asked his aides to establish more normal and friendly ties with the military sector. He urged them to overcome the misunderstanding and disagreements that occurred during the first year of the administration.

During last Sunday's meeting at La Moneda Palace, there were no announcements about cabinet changes, or drastic changes in government policies as predicted by some sectors.

President Aylwin accepted criticism regarding the so-called government's isolation. He told his aides that they should make an effort to establish direct contact with different sectors in their areas of influence. He praised Housing Minister Alberto Etchegaray, whom he said is the exception.

Perhaps the most relevant point about last Sunday's meeting is the decisiveness with which President Aylwin talked about the Coalition of Parties for Democracy [CPPD] and what it must do in the upcoming elections. Aylwin categorically stated that the CPPD must continue to exist beyond 1993. He added that the CPPD guarantees peace and political stability. In view of this, Aylwin asked his aides to defend the CPPD whatever the election results.

Aylwin told his aides that they should not engage in political campaign activities in their capacity as government officials. Being more explicit, Aylwin told government officials that government vehicles must not be used for the political campaign of any candidate.

This obviously does not mean that the government will not work hard to win the elections. President Aylwin is not impartial. He said that the government will win the elections by being competent in the fulfillment of its duties.

President Aylwin did not sanction anyone but he clearly expressed that government officials must be highly efficient, honest, and opportune. He added that no one has his job assured for four years.

Despite this warning, the president's men were reassured by his support. According to all reports, last Sunday's meeting was quite encouraging.

One wonders if the same will be true on 25 October when the president is scheduled to meet with legislators and CPPD leaders. It is very likely that this will be a more stormy meeting than the one held last Sunday because legislators and politicians are undoubtedly more independent, more defiant, and have different interests than those shared by government officials.

Townley Accused as CIA Agent in Letelier Case

PY1610015691 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Report by Claudio Mendoza]

[Text] Journalist Rafael Otero Echeverrria spoke yesterday after testifying for more than one hour before Adolfo Banados, the judge who is hearing the Letelier case. He said that Michael Townley, one of the main characters involved in the murder of Orlando Letelier, former foreign minister, was in fact an agent of the CIA, not of the Dina [National Intelligence Directorate]. He said:

[Begin recording] I gave him some of the background information and documents that I have, information that shows that Michael Townley was a CIA agent. I especially told him about the testimony delivered by the CIA security chief to the Chilean Government during the extradition procedures. This is a legalized document in which Gambino, the CIA security chief, confirmed that in January 1971 security information on Townley was requested in order to employ him as an operational agent. [end recording]

Otero explained that he was summoned by Judge Banados to deliver the background information that he claimed to have had in his possession. Otero denied being a Dina agent or an informer.

Otero admitted that he has been a very good friend of General Manuel Contreras, retired, since 1978. Contreras is currently charged with perpetrating Letelier's death.

Asked if Contreras was actually the Dina director, Otero said that legally he was not.

[Begin recording] [Otero] No. He was the operations director. The Dina director had to be a general.

[Unidentified reporter] Who was the Dina director?

[Otero] The government junta chief.

[Reporter] Who is that?

[Otero] General Pinochet, and everything points to him. The goal has always been to overthrow and discredit Pinochet. [end recording]

Otero added that he assumed that the orders for detention by the Dina were personally issued by Pinochet.

In conclusion, Otero said that it will be difficult to establish the truth in the Letelier case because George Bush, Mikhail Gorbachev, Carlos Andres Perez, and Fidel Castro were all involved in the crime.

Communists Deny Instigating Protests by Indians

PY1410140491 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 13 Oct 91

[Text] The Communist Party of Chile [PCCh] denies instigating an Indian organization to carry out measures of force. Jaime Insunza, PCCh Central Committee member, and Antonio Inostroza, the top PCCh leader in

the Ninth Region, refuted charges made yesterday by Santiago Mayor Jaime Ravinet and the National Renewal Party [RN].

[Begin recording] [Insunza] The social organizations of the Indian tribes organize these actions in defense of their interests, rights, and concerns. Social Democrats, Socialists, Christian leftists, and Communists participate in these actions where a great majority of the people do not belong to any political party. These actions, however, are organized by the Indian organizations and not at the encouragement or instigation of any political party in particular.

[Unidentified reporter] Does the PCCh support these actions by the Indian communities?

[Insunza] We have publicly voiced our support for these demonstrations because we believe they respond to the claims, interests, and needs of people who are suffering. [end recording]

Kohl Agenda Not To Include Honecker Case

PY1610210491 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1543 GMT 16 Oct 91

[Text] Santiago, 16 Oct (EFE)—The case of former GDR president Erich Honecker is not on German Chancellor Helmut Kohl's agenda for his upcoming visit to Chile, Chilean Ambassador to Bonn Carlos Huneeus said today. The case of Honecker, who is in Moscow, must be solved by Germany and the USSR and it does not affect German-Chilean relations, said Huneeus, who is in Chile to help prepare for Kohl's visit to Santiago 19-22 October.

Honecker, whose daughter Sonia and grandchildren are living in Chile and whose wife Margot has been in Santiago for the past two weeks, expressed a wish to meet with his family in Chile, but his legal situation in Germany makes this difficult. The former communist leader is accused of ordering the border police of the now defunct GDR to shoot GDR citizens who attempted to flee to the West.

The Chilean Government thinks this is a domestic German problem, therefore it will not be discussed during the meetings that will be held between Chilean President Patricio Aylwin and Kohl in Santiago, Huneeus said.

Margot Honecker's situation is completely different, Huneeus said, because there are no legal charges pending against her—this is why the German Foreign Ministry gave her a passport to travel to Chile.

The Chilean left has said that the Aylwin administration should grant asylum to the former GDR president if he requests it in return for the GDR accepting thousands of Chilean exiles during General Augusto Pinochet's regime (1973-1990).

During Kohl's visit, Chile and Germany will sign agreements on reciprocal protection for investments and economic cooperation in the health field and a treaty on immigrants' pensions.

Colombia

Commission To Mediate Resumption of Peace Talks

PA1710011291 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0100 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Text] The Advisory Commission on Public Order will travel to Caracas on 16 October. Its mission is to mediate so that the dialogue between the Guerrilla Coordinating Board and the government will get back on course. Here is a report by Jose Luis Ramirez:

[Begin recording] [Ramirez] In a communique issued to the Communist Party of Colombia [PCC] secretary general, the Guerrilla Coordinating Board said that it wants to return to the talks with the government with the priority objectives as follows: 1. A bilateral cease-fire effective on 20 October will be agreed on; 2. The government will specify the precise sites where the guerrillas will be located; 3. Beginning with the cease-fire a verification commission and an international monitoring commission will be appointed to monitor the process; 4. The cease-fire will last no less than three months.

[PCC Secretary Alvaro Vasquez] They believe that the Advisory Commission could present to the country a new proposal that would be neither that of the government nor that of the coordinating board, but would contain common elements from those proposals.

[Ramirez] With this in mind, the six delegates on the Advisory Commission on Public Order are preparing to hold a new meeting with the guerrillas in an effort to reestablish the communications between the government and the Guerrilla Coordinating Board that were broken off 14 days ago.

[Commission Delegate Saul Arboleda] We are going to foster a climate that will lead to the resumption of the dialogue that, among the points to be addressed, will result in a bilateral cease-fire agreement.

[Ramirez] In its communique, the Guerrilla Coordinating Board also expressed its willingness to accept the special electoral district's election of representatives to the new congress. [end recording]

Government Guarantees 'Normal' Elections

PA1410152391 Santa Fe de Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Oct 91

[Text] Santa Fe de Bogota—The national government has guaranteed that the nationwide elections on 27 October will be normal, despite public order problems reported in some regions of the country. Government and Interior Minister Humberto de la Calle Lombana

told Radio Cadena Nacional that the government is continuing to work on the Democracy Plan, which is intended to maintain security throughout the country. This way, the electorate will be free to follow their consciences in voting for governors and members of the new congress.

De la Calle indicated that a plan is underway to protect the lives of the candidates and noted that the police and military are efficiently carrying out their duties. There can be no doubt that the government is guaranteeing the electoral process. To date, no elections have been suspended in any of the more than 8,000 areas where the voting is to take place. The process will be successful, the official stated.

'Unbiased' Political News Coverage Sought

PA1710015291 Paris AFP in Spanish 0514 GMT 16 Oct 91

[Text] Santa Fe de Bogota 15 Oct (AFP)—The Office of the Attorney General acknowledged today the lack of impartiality in Colombian television coverage of political news, and has requested authorities to make the appropiate corrective measures.

Attorney General Carlos Gustavo Arrieta, supported by Ombudsman Jaime Cordoba, requested that the communications minister summon the National Television Council to an extraordinary meeting for 16 October in order to clarify this issue.

The council will analyze INRAVISION reports [National Institute of Radio and Television] concerning news coverage of political candidates who are running for office in the congressional and gubernatorial elections scheduled for 27 October, and will analyze how news coverage of political and electoral information is handled.

Mr. Arrieta and Mr. Cordoba pointed out that the allegations called for an immediate response that will ratify the principles of pluralism and equal access, while offering all citizens and candidates sufficient political guarantees during the electoral process.

On the other hand, Acting Communications Minister Jose Gregorio Hernandez said in receiving the request to summon the National Television Council that, even though the Constitution prohibits censorship, it specifically states that every person is entitled to receive accurate and unbiased information, which naturally includes political information.

Judge Issues Arrest Warrant for DEA Agent

PA1610132791 Santa Fe de Bogota EL NUEVO SIGLO in Spanish 12 Oct 91 p 6

[Text] For the first time in the history of the fight against drug trafficking in Colombia, a judge has issued an arrest warrant for a DEA agent accused of drug trafficking and conspiracy to commit a crime.

The Fifth Criminal Court in Cartagena declared the following to be absent defendants: U.S. Customs agent Roberto Pospisil and the owners of Honduran ship Mayaca Express; and Melvin and William Teeters, who are linked to the crimes of drug trafficking and conspiracy to commit a crime.

The Mayaca Express, a Honduran ship, was used by its owners and the DEA in a covert operation 1985 in which they were supposed to break up a drug-trafficking network between the island of San Andres and the state of Florida in the United States.

The owners of the ship, after successfully sending their first cocaine shipment to the United States, initiated a second operation, which was uncovered by the DAS [Administrative Department of Security] and the ship was seized by the authorities.

According to Colombian laws, the ship was turned over to the Colombian Navy and after a trip through the Caribbean, it was shipwrecked. Later, the owners filed a lawsuit against the government on the disappearance of the ship. Last week, the Attorney General's Office appealed to the Council of State following the decision by the Court of Administrative Law of Bolivar Department, which ordered the country to pay $890,000.

It was also learned that within the next few days the court will decide on the legal status of Orlando Gonzalez Rosado, the defense lawyer for the ship owners who gave statements during an inquiry last week.

The U.S. Embassy in Colombia sent a letter to the national authorities certifying that Pospisil is a DEA agent and that he made contact with the owners of the Honduran ship for the covert operation. However, the U.S. Government denied that the DEA had promised immunity to the Hondurans in the event the operation failed.

Demobilized Guerrillas' Activities Financed

PA1510035191 Santa Fe de Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 11 Oct 91 p 6A

[Text] A report from the Reintegration Office of the Presidency of the Republic states that nearly 736 former guerrillas from the 19 April Movement [M-19]; the Popular Liberation Army [EPL]; the Revolutionary Workers Party [PRT]; and Quintin Lame have received over 1.35 billion pesos in credits for investing in economic projects.

The report pointed out the progress made by persons who were once members of subversive organizations and who are now demobilized and rejoining civilian life.

The report contained statistics given after the most recent meeting of the Advisory Board for Reconciliation, Normalization, and Rehabilitation, which approved credits for nearly 440 million pesos that will serve to finance 59 new enterprises in the urban and rural areas designated for 238 demobilized fighters who work there.

The first credits approved during that meeting include 102 million pesos for former PRT members and 18 million pesos for nine members of the former Quintin Lame.

The approved projects include a machinery shop in Cordoba, where 45 former EPL fighters will work; a real estate company in Cali for 43 demobilized M-19 fighters; a drug store and a medical center in Uraba for six former EPL members; a clothing manufacturing shop in Medellin for five former PRT members; and a water purification plant in Choco for 10 members of the former M-19.

Of the 736 former guerrillas who began assimilation into civilian life, six have chosen to take a loan to further their educations.

Paraguay

Foreign Minister Urges Italian Debt Arbitration

PY1410173291 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 12 Oct 91 p 10

[Excerpts] Paraguayan Foreign Minister Alexis Frutos Vaesken has urged the Chamber of Deputies to approve a law authorizing arbitration for the debt contracted by Rossi Company [which built and abandoned a fruit processing factory in La Colmena]. In order to make the lawmakers understand the importance of the issue, Frutos told them that Italian Foreign Ministry officials who recently visited Paraguay made it clear to him that Italy would oppose renegotiation of Paraguay's foreign debt with the Paris Club unless the matter of government guarantees for the Rossi loan was resolved. [passage omitted]

In view of this situation, the foreign minister asked the lawmakers to let the government take the issue to arbitration to resolve the problem posed by the Rossi debt once and for all. Frutos explained that an indirect way of paying off this company's debt would have been to extend the benefits of the investment and exports law to the Rossi Company.

He added that this idea did not take hold because the businessmen who wanted to take over the company, thus the deal did not work out. [sentence as published]. Seeking to gain support for the arbitration proposal, the foreign minister told the lawmakers that the problem could be resolved through the good offices of an international organization that would rule whether the state guarantees supplied by Gramont Berres are valid. The parties involved would have to accept the decision of the international arbiter. The foreign minister added that even though the state is not involved, the factory is on Paraguayan soil and the bill has to be paid. [passage omitted]

Argentina Conditions Yacyreta Plant Continuation

PY1110194091 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 11 Oct 91 p 11

[Text] The Argentine Government has conditioned continuation of the Yacyreta hydroelectric project on compliance with three requirements: to begin plant operation with the reservoir water level at 76 meters above sea level, to establish the power rate at an earlier date, and to reduce the monthly expenses of the Yacyreta Binational Agency (EBY).

The serious situation was analyzed yesterday by President Andres Rodriguez, Foreign Minister Alexis Frutos Vaesken, and EBY Assistant Executive Director Alcides Jimenez.

Annex B of the Yacyreta Treaty, in a section dealing with the main parts of the project, states that the water level of the hydroelectric plant's reservoir should be 84.5 meters above sea level.

The minister and the EBY director explained that Argentina wants the plant to begin operating with the water level at 76 meters above sea level, that is, 8.5 meters below the level established by the treaty.

Despite the fact that the consulting firm (CIDY) [International Consulting Firm of Yacyreta] that worked on the project noted that operations at 76 meters would be disadvantageous from an economic standpoint—at that level the generators will produce only 50 percent of the scheduled power—Argentina has chosen it because it reportedly has no funds for financing the relocation work scheduled in the project.

Operation at 76 meters is only one of the topics in the anticrisis plan that a technical bilateral committee studied between June and September 1991. The plan suggests operating the plant at 76 meters for no longer than a year, that is, until 1995, and then increase the reservoir level to 78 meters, and finally, in 1997, to the level provided for in the treaty.

Operating at 76 meters will delay implementation of the largest part of the relocation program, and also construction of the protection facilities for Aguapey and Tacuary streams, which will prevent flooding of more than 200 square km of Paraguayan territory.

Meeting With the Argentine Foreign Ministry

The minister yesterday told journalists accredited to Government House that "we would prefer that the work be completed, but apparently there are very serious financial factors that even have to do with the continuation of the project. This is the topic that we are studying and about which we are holding consultations. If necessary, there will be a meeting with the Argentine Foreign Ministry, perhaps next week. It is a pressing issue because continuation of the Yacyreta project will depend on the solution that we find," the minister said.

According to the minister, the Paraguayan Government has not yet made a decision on the subject "because we have to evaluate the consequences (of the Argentine conditions) for the country." He said that there are no deadlines, "but the matter is urgent."

Why is Paraguay reluctant to agree to the Argentine plan? "Paraguay should adopt all measures to ensure that those facilities are built so that the territory can be recovered," the minister said. "If operation begins at a low level, the relocation and stream protection work will be postponed. Who can assure Paraguay that such work will be done when the reservoir level rises to its next level?"

Anticipated Rate

Argentina also has demanded establishing the power rate on an earlier date. In this regard, Engineer Jimenez explained that it is difficult to establish a price at the present time because "generation will begin around 1994, and it is very difficult to predict the conditions that will prevail in the electric power market in three or four years. The agency's criterion is that Annex C should remain valid and that rates should be established when generation begins and when there is power for sale."

As for the third condition, the rationalization of EBY expenses, Jimenez said: "There is a consensus on the subject; we do not have a big problem in agreeing to that. We are aware that expenses must be reduced."

'Strong' Increase in Foreign Currency Deposits

PY1610015291 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 12 Oct 91 p 13

[Text] After dropping in August, the rate of foreign currency deposits increased again in September. In the nine months between December 1990 and September 1991, savings in dollars and other hard currencies in commercial banks increased by nearly 100 billion guaranies.

According to data provided by the 24 commercial banks in the country, there was a sharp drop in the rate of increase during August as a result of the higher rate of compulsory deposits in the Central Bank. In September, however, the situation reversed.

After an August increase of only 3.188 billion guaranies (which was the lowest increase this year) foreign currency deposits increased by 9.032 billion guaranies during September. Total foreign currency deposits in local commercial banks on 30 September was 395.215 billion guaranies. When this total is compared with the total on 31 December 1990, we notice an increase of 99.968 billion guaranies for the period, or 33.85 percent.

According to some bank analysts, the significant increase is the most important financial event so far this year. Never before have we had such a strong increase. Financial circles are already calling the event "the boom of swallow dollars." The dollars that foreigners deposit in local banks to take advantage of favorable foreign currency saving conditions are called "swallow dollars" [because they can easily fly out again].

Local banks have a total of $300 million in foreign currency deposited in their vaults. This amount represents 30 percent of the Central Bank's total monetary reserves.

Parties Register for Constituent Elections

PY1610212491 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 16 Oct 91 p 5

[Text] Seven political parties have registered with the Central Electoral Board (JEC) to participate in the 1 December national elections for Constituent Assembly members. Independent movement lists for different departments have also been registered. The registration period expired yesterday.

The following political parties and independent movements have registered lists:

National Republic Association (Colorado Party): National list headed by Oscar Facundo Ynsfran; capital list headed by Deputy Juan Ernesto Villamayor. The party also has candidates for the 15 departmental election districts.

Authentic Radical Liberal Party (PLRA): National list headed by Senator Domingo Laino; capital list headed by Deputy Juan Manuel Benitez Florentin. The party also has candidates for the 15 departmental election districts.

Independent movement "Constitution for All": National list headed by Asuncion council member Emilio Camacho; capital list headed by sociologist Jose Nicolas Morinigo. This movement also has candidates in the 14 Eastern Region departments, but not in the Chaco region.

Independent movement "Paraguay Pyahura" [For a New Paraguay]: National list headed by Alfonso Cohene; capital list headed by Carlos Callizo. This movement has candidates in Central, Cordillera, Canindeyu, San Pedro, Caaguazu, and Misiones Departments.

Febrerista Revolutionary Party (PRF): National list headed by Euclides Acevedo; capital list headed by Laura Gomez. This party has candidates in Alto Parana, Itapua, and Central Departments.

Christian Democratic Party (PDC): National list headed by Alfonso Resck; capital list headed by Jose Victoriano Altamirno. This party has candidates in all departments, except Neembucu and Amambay.

Workers Party (PT): National list headed by Tomas Zayas; capital list headed by Julio Lopez. This party has candidates in Central, Alto Parana, Itapua, and Guaira Departments.

Paraguayan National Socialist Party (PNS): This party has a single list for the capital, which is headed by Luis Milan Saggia.

"Democratic Civility Movement", an independent movement sponsored by the Paraguayan Peasant Movement (MCP): This party has lists in Concepcion, Caaguazu, and San Pedro Departments.

Peru

Agreement on Money Laundering Signed With U.S.

PY1510154091 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2105 GMT 14 Oct 91

[Excerpt] Lima, 14 Oct (ANDINA)—Peru and the United States signed today an unprecedented agreement to prevent and control the laundering of drug- trafficking money. The agreement authorizes the lifting of banking secrecy whenever there is a suspicion of bank accounts connected with this crime.

Following the signing of the agreement by U.S. Ambassador Anthony Quainton, Prime and Foreign Minister Carlos Torres y Torres Lara stressed the Peruvian Government's firm intention to continue the moralization campaign.

He said that Peru and the United States are earnestly fighting illegal trafficking of drugs and psychotropic substances.

The minister said: "This is a historic step because openness in bank operations will allow us to control and to end the laundering of money since the ill-gotten gains of criminals in this field will no longer be concealed."

Torres y Torres said that the security of the banking system will remain unchanged and the deposits of those who morally act within the law are guaranteed. [passage omitted]

Fujimori, DPRK Envoy Discuss Relations

PY1710013291 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2049 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Text] Lima, 15 Oct (ANDINA)—President Alberto Fujimori held a private meeting with Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly, this afternoon.

At 1330, the Korean official and his entourage arrived at Government Palace, where they stayed for approximately 15 minutes. Yang conveyed his greetings to Fujimori, with whom he discussed matters related to Peruvian-Korean relations and the international situation.

Yang did not make any remarks at the end of the meeting.

Military Charged With Killing Tocache Civilians

PY1210235091 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 4 Oct 91 p A5

[Text] Popular Action Deputy Blanca Rocha de Janz charged that military personnel shot 30 civilians to death in Tocache during an antiterrorist operation on 1 October.

Rocha said that a relative of hers and his family and maid were among the casualties. She added that the survivors are in hiding and have no guarantees of safety.

Rocha filed the charge with the defense and interior ministers, Generals Jorge Torres Aciego and Victor Malca Villanueva, who were summoned by the Chamber of Deputies Human Rights Committee.

She said that detainees were transferred to an Army encampment in military vehicles. After standing at this site for three hours, they were taken to a bridge on the outskirts of Tocache. She added that "the prisoners were shot in the head and then thrown into the Huallaga River."

Rocha said that residents from San Martin, where she was born, know who the subversives are, but the police and the military do not seem to know them.

Reportedly, the defense minister said that he was unaware of the incident and that some subordinates probably did not comply with the strict orders to end abuses and to pave the way for visits to police stations and garrisons by judges to investigate cases of missing people.

He said that these are isolated cases and they occur because of a lack of political will.

MRTA Groups in La Convencion Broken Up

PY1610023491 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 2 Oct 91 p A11

[Text] During a news conference in Quillabamba, Army Colonel Carlos Roman La Hoz, political-military command chief, reported that Army troops have broken up two MRTA (Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement) groups in La Convencion Province.

La Hoz said that one month after implementing a state of emergency in the area, the Army broke up the so-called "Black Summer" subversive plan, which included perpetrating killings and attacks in La Convencion and in Lares and Yanatili Districts in Calca Province, north of Cusco.

Colonel Roman reported that, as of July, subversives had infiltrated community organizations, taking advantage of Quillabamba anniversary festivities. He added that the subversives reportedly received arms, explosives, and propaganda material from the Upper Huallaga area.

Col. La Hoz said there was an attack in the Vaqueria area where the Armed Forces arrested nine peasants who had gotten involved with subversives. He said they acted with the consent of an alleged human rights organization.

The military officer reported that 15 individuals were arrested and that the alleged leader of the MRTA commando was identified as Julio Baca Machuca. He said Baca Machuca had established two groups called "Manco Inca" and "Luis de la Puente Uceda."

The subversives had several guns; ammunition; a modern solar panel; computerized radio equipment; a "walkie-talkie" [preceding word in English] with a 20-km range; and many explosives known as "Russian cheese". La Hoz reported that the Armed Forces also seized dynamite, electric primers, and a lot of subversive propaganda.

In addition, he reported that the main subversive group was subdivided into small groups of four, six, and eight members in order to infiltrate the communities.

Prosecutor To Investigate Telephone Tapping

PY1610112891 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1841 GMT 14 Oct 91

[Excerpt] Lima, 14 Oct (ANDINA)—Attorney General Pedro Mendez Jurado announced today that the attorney general office will investigate the tapping of a telephone conversation between former President Alan Garcia and American Popular Revolutionary Alliance [APRA] Congressmen Jorge del Castillo and Humberto Carranza.

Mendez said that tapping is regarded as a crime under Peruvian law and that those responsible will be prosecuted.

He condemned the use of the recorded conversation, during which they spoke about the charges of Garcia's alleged illicit accumulation of wealth. The recording was released during a television program last night. [passage omitted]

Partial Blackout in Lima, Other Cities Reported

PA1510041891 Paris AFP in Spanish 0336 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Text] Lima, 14 Oct (AFP)—Shining Path terrorists caused a partial blackout in the capital and some cities along the coast with dynamite attacks against high-tension towers on the night of 14 October, police reported.

The power outage left in the dark 50 percent of Lima and cities located 80 km to the north and south, the source said.

Police reported three explosions at public and private institutions in commercial buildings in southern Lima that broke windows but caused no casualties.

Attacks against high-tension towers took place in remote Andean regions and interrupted power service generated by the Mantaro Hydroelectric Plant, which supplies electricity to a large part of the Peruvian coast.

The power company said that, as a result of the attacks, it has decided to ration power in some districts of Lima as of 15 October until the destroyed towers are repaired.

Police vehicles are driving through the streets of the capital that were adversely affected by the power outage in an attempt to prevent subversive attacks, a police source said.

* 'New' Counterinsurgency Strategy Begun in Ica

92WR0003Z Lima EL PERUANO in Spanish 6 Sep 91 p B11

[Report by Marco Correa]

[Text] Ica—A frontal assault has been launched against terrorism throughout the Department of Ica, supported by six helicopter gunships now operating in Ica, Chincha, and Nazca Provinces.

National Police General Raul Chavez Gonzales said the strategy aimed at the rebel columns will be more effective because the fight is being waged "across the length and breadth" of the rural Ica mountain area now being used by terrorist groups as a base from which to plague defenseless towns.

The police official said the new strategy in Ica is the result of a decision made by the Central Government to put an end once and for all to the obstinate refusal of certain individuals not to permit development and peace in that part of the country.

Stations Reopened

He stated that all police stations attacked by terrorists are gradually being reopened.

At least five such stations scattered throughout Ica have been attacked by terrorist groups.

The first to be reopened was in the district of Independencia in Pisco Province. The next will be Huancano in Huaytara Province.

General Raul Chavez Gonzales said the police station in Laramate, where 11 uniformed officers were killed in a recent terrorist attack, is now under the control of the Army.

He also revealed that the Querco district post has received reinforcements in order to counter the terrorists who have done wreaked so much havoc in the most remote settlements in Ica, dooming them to their backwardness.

"Our counterterrorist objectives depend on existing police personnel to reopen stations in areas where there has been an increase in terrorist activity," the official said.

He added that along with additional personnel, sophisticated weapons are needed and are now being received.

"Reinforcements have been sent to Ica to respond to such needs, along with six helicopter gunships, two of which are operating in Ica Province, two in Nazca, and two in Chincha, with the valuable support of Peruvian Air Force elements."

Terrorist Columns

General Juan Reyes Pena, former commanding officer of the National Police's 9th Region, said that five columns of heavily armed Senderists were moving from the emergency zone toward Ica.

He said one column was proceeding from Yauyos (Lima) toward Chincha, another from Castrovirreyna toward Pisco, and that a third armed group was staging raids from a base in Huaytara to the districts of La Tinguina and Parcona in Ica, while attacks were being perpetrated in Palpa Province by a column operating in Laramate, Ocana, and Otaca.

This latter group is presumably the author of attacks on police stations in El Ingenio, Palpa, Laramate, Cordova, and recently Laramarca, where they killed three local officials.

Morale High

National Police Officer Raul Chavez Gonzales said police morale is high, based on their watchword of defending the constitution and democracy and their duty to restore peace in each and every one of the towns harassed by the terrorist onslaught.

Similar counterinsurgent measures are also being taken in the Department of Cusco, where General Walter Taboada, head of the National Police's 10th Region, announced that police personnel were being beefed up and supplied with sophisticated weapons.

Nuclear Projects, Prospects Discussed at Forum

PY1410214891 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 7 Oct 91 p B8

[Report by Maria Marta Sucarrat and Andrea Castillo]

[Excerpt] The technical and scientific activity of the Peruvian Institute of Nuclear Energy (IPEN) requires—because of the lack of government financial support—the joint effort of organizations linked to scientific research, such as universities, and national and international investments in research and development. This was what national scientific community representatives concluded during the forum "The Present and Future of Nuclear Energy in Peru," organized by IPEN and attended by EL COMERCIO as a special guest. The forum was directed by IPEN President Jose Dellepiani Massa, a retired Navy commander, and the main issue was the problems facing the organization because of the lack of resources. Dellepiani said that 72 percent of the funds assigned by the state are used to pay salaries and only 18 percent to pay for goods and services. A professional working at the institute earns, on average, a monthly salary of 150 new soles. Participating in the forum were Research and Development Manager Ricardo Espinola Garcia of the "Racso" [Oscar Miro Quesada de la Guerra Nuclear Center] nuclear center; nuclear security expert Julio Romani Aguirre; engineer Marino Romero Loli, senior professor at La Molina National Agriculture University; Dr. Herbert Villanueva Meyer, manager of "Biotechnology" and a nuclear medicine expert; Engineer Rodolfo Zamalloa Lopez, Itintec [expansion unknown] general director; Dr. Manfred Horn, dean of the National Engineer University Science Department; and Dr. Reynaldo Morales, of the U.S. "Los Alamos" laboratory.

Dellepiani said the solution to IPEN's critical situation lies in the ability to mobilize IPEN's commercial department and the possibility of reaching out for international technical cooperation.

Dellepiani said IPEN recently signed a brotherly cooperation agreement involving the "Racso" nuclear center and the U.S. "Los Alamos" laboratory to work on research projects useful to our country. The agreement also will make possible the training of national personnel in the U.S. laboratory.

IPEN also is seeking to sign an agreement for a research project with India and to establish the basis for a regional nuclear cooperation network to take advantage of the country's installed nuclear capacity.

Dellepiani said that even though Peru has the largest and most modern nuclear center in the region, "the national reality and projections on the use of radioisotopes will not allow us to take full advantage of our installed capacity in the next few years."

Dellepiani said the international market has needs that IPEN can satisfy but added that the institute regretfully does not have the means to take advantage of the situation. [passage omitted]

Petroperu Reports Drop in Oil Production

PY1410193091 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 3 Oct 91 p A8

[Excerpts] Six years after the APRA [American Popular Revolutionary Alliance] government decided to cancel the contract the U.S. oil company Belco signed to operate in Peru's northern coastal sector, oil production has been reduced by 10,000 barrels per day, and it has not reached the 1985 level.

Petroperu [State Petroleum Agency] Director Jaime Quijandria Salmon said on 2 October that Belco's oil exploitation in the northern coastal sector yielded 26,000 barrels per day. He added that this amount has dropped to 16,000 barrels per day.

Quijandria attributed the problem to the lack of capital to buy new equipment able to drill down to 10,000 feet instead of the current 8,000 feet. He said: "The foreign company undoubtedly would have bought new equipment."

He said the government, through the Economy Ministry, is analyzing the amount that should be paid to Belco in compensation.

Former President Alan Garcia's administration decided on 30 August 1985 to cancel the contract with the U.S. company. Since that date, Belco's insurance companies have asked Peru to pay $163.5 million to compensate for the loss. [passage omitted]

Quijandria said he has received a request from the Eurocam Company so that it can be considered the second choice after Shell Company for gas prospecting in Camisea.

He said that 30 companies should be contracted to operate throughout Peru in order to maintain the production required by internal consumption. He added that two contractor companies currently are operating in the country and four are prospecting for oil.

Quijandria also expressed his concern over the possible lack of appropriate personnel to operate Petroperu. He said that so far 1,800 workers and experts have voluntarily submitted their resignations in order to work for other enterprises.

He referred to these topics during the speech he addressed to the Chamber of Deputies Ecology Committee, chaired by APRA Deputy Augusto Aldave Pajares.

Uruguay

Blanco Party Congressmen's Criticism Refuted

PY1410170091

[Editorial Report] Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish at 1000 GMT on 14 October carries an eight-minute report in which two Colorado Party faction leaders refute criticism of the previous Colorado administration made on 11 October by ruling Blanco Party congressmen.

In an open letter to the public dated 13 October 1991, Jorge Batlle, former senator and current leader of Radical Batlleism [a Colorado Party faction], labeled the Blanco Party congressmen's criticism—allegedly made by order of President Luis Alberto Lacalle—"an unwise and senseless provocation." Besides "harshly criticizing the Colorado Party without naming it," the Blanco Party congressmen considered "the 1851 treaties between Uruguay and Brazil broken, annulled, and canceled."

"Such statements deserve two observations. First, I emphatically assert that those responsible for this unwise and senseless provocation lack—and I am being lenient—political sense and the equilibrium with which to lead the Republic. They even lack a sense of the past and the future because they are disrespectful of both. They are also disrespectful of national coexistence. They are not inspired by a nationalist sense of government, but by partisan interests," Batlle said.

Batlle's letter continues, describing how, in the current changing world, Latin American countries must strengthen ties between each other to improve the people's standard of living and well-being, fully validating the meaning of democracy, and how peaceful coexistence must begin at home.

Meanwhile, while dedicating some works in the Lavalleja neighborhood of Minas, former president Julio Maria Sanguinetti, leader of the Batlleist Forum [a Colorado Party faction] told a local party colleague: "The Colorado Party policy was very wise as can be evaluated and judged by the public." Sanguinetti also criticized trips abroad by current Blanco Party administration. When he was in power, the former president said, "the Herreristas [a Blanco party faction] said they would not travel abroad."

Budget Figures, Military Expenditures Reported

PY1110225991 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0715 GMT 11 Oct 91

[Report by Alberto Pepe Leira]

[Excerpt] Montevideo, 11 Oct (EFE)—The Uruguayan military expenditures inherited from 12 years of dictatorship could not be reduced to the level desired by politicians after seven years of democracy. These expenditures are the largest part of the budget with 13 percent.

The figures, which were known after the approval by Congress of the budget bill for the first 12 months of the current government, indicate that Uruguay still has much to do to adapt its state structure to meet the demands of regional integration.

Public primary and secondary education is in second place in the budget with 12 percent.

Despite the budget cuts made by two democratic governments, the Defense and Interior Ministries generate 20 percent of the budget expenditures.

The Minor Institute was assigned 1.6 percent of the budget; the Judicial Branch 1.8 percent; and the Housing Ministry 2.4 percent, which represent the lowest budget allocations.

State expenditures and tax pressures are the main concerns for authorities, who must prepare the country to join the Common Market of the South, which will go into effect in 1994.

The government has begun to implement a broad plan to privatize the public enterprises that have a deficit and to face the cost of the state's primary services, such as those of the defense and police agencies, which are very large considering the size of the country. [passage omitted]

Venezuela

Student Protest Paralyzes Downtown Caracas

PA1710044391 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2309 GMT 16 Oct 91

[Text] Caracas, 16 Oct (EFE)—Downtown Caracas was paralyzed today after the incidents that took place in front of the National Congress between students, who demonstrated to protest the government budget cut, and riot police.

The demonstration, in which some 30,000 persons participated, was organized by all of the universities in the nation with the goal of getting Congress to approve the budget allowances the strikers requested for the 1992 school year. According to the authorities, there were no injuries during the demonstration.

During the incidents, minority student groups broke several windows at Congress and in surrounding shops. This prompted police intervention and the closing of most of the Caracas downtown shopping area.

During the clashes between students and police, tear gas was used, there was a traffic jam on the main streets, and the people who were then in the area, one of the busiest in Caracas, quickly fled from the streets.

The demonstrators had started from the Central University of Venezuela (UCV), led by President Luis Fuenmayor. Their goal was to deliver to the congressmen a document setting out economic requirements for the school year.

Accompanying the academic authorities was a large scale model representing two frigates that will soon be modernized at a cost of 12 billion bolivares (approximately $200 million). This operation has been highly criticized by the university students and Venezuelan society across the board, as they believe that this money should be invested in education, food, health, and security.

During the demonstration, the university students cried out slogans against "corrupt politicians," who according to the students, "are the ones who rob the nation." Some demonstrators tried to attack the congressmen who had come out to accept the document drawn up by the university presidents.

These public demonstrations aimed at obtaining a larger budget for public education have been staged in several Venezuelan cities over the past month since the government project for the 1992 budget was made public.

* Corruption Prompts Call for Judicial Reform

92WD0011A Caracas EL DIARIO DE CARACAS in Spanish 16 Sep 91 p 32

[Interview with Social Christian Party (COPEI) Deputy Paciano Padron on the program "Primer Plano"; date and place not given—first two paragraphs are introduction]

[Text] The COPEI deputy said that the investigation into the case of Lorena Marquez Capriles has once again demonstrated the ineffectiveness of Venezuelan justice, which is subordinate to special interests. He argued that the PTJ [Judicial Technical Police] should be under the Judicature and that the socioeconomic status of police officials ought to be improved as a way to tackle corruption and inefficiency.

The reform of government has to begin with the reform of the Judiciary and, concurrently, the reform of the police, Deputy Paciano Padron feels. On the program Primer Plano he proposed that the police no longer be under the Executive Branch but rather be placed under the Council of the Judicature. In connection with the irregularities that occurred in the investigation of the death of Lorena Marquez de Capriles, the COPEI congressman criticized the action of police, extending his judgment to notary's offices, "where average citizens are being assaulted."

[Primer Plano] Paciano, I think that the last time you were on the program we had a chance to talk at length about the case of the attorney general of the republic, against whom a number of very serious charges were being leveled. What happened with this case, which we have never again heard about?

[Padron] I remember that on that program we dealt mainly with Hector Serpa Arcas, the then attorney general of the republic, and Jose Manzo Gonzalez, the justice minister at the time. That program even served to bring out a number of crimes committed by the so-called Manzopol that had been under review. So much so that the president, with all that evidence before him, had no choice but to fire Jose Manzo Gonzalez as justice minister. Justice was not served afterwards. The case did not move forward.

In the case of Serpa Arcas, it was in November 1988 that I went to the Supreme Court of Justice to accuse him of 18 crimes and irregularities. They were corroborated by the Congress of the Republic in a report that the Delegated Commission approved unanimously. The accusation was then hidden away in the Supreme Court of Justice, pigeonholed, and the preliminary trial that should have been held for this high-level magistrate was not held.... For four months I asked the Supreme Court

to release the file.... When the file arrived at the Safeguard Tribunal, it issued an arrest warrant for Hector Serpa Arcas....

Serpa Arcas was alerted that an arrest warrant was going to be issued for him, and he fled...to Spain, where he is living today with Lola and enjoying the ill-gotten gains he stole from the Treasury.... The man who was supposed to uphold the law and the constitution...was capable of stealing public monies and fled like a common criminal, without having the courage and the integrity to face the charges.

[Primer Plano] Why should he have the courage and integrity to face the charges?

[Padron] The assumption is that a man who is serving as the attorney general of the republic and who should believe in the judicial system...ought to face the consequences and not flee, as he regrettably has, if he is innocent of the charges that were made against him at the time. It is just another piece in the tragic situation of Venezuelan justice. I think that the much talked about need to reform the Venezuelan State unquestionably and urgently must begin with the most important of the branches of government, the Judiciary, because it punishes wrongdoing and insures the equality of citizens before the law.

[Primer Plano] Where are all the deputies, senators, ministers, and mass media who defended Serpa Arcas? What are they saying now?

[Padron] What a good question! Today they are in hiding. Today they are silent. The great majority of them are not even helping to clean up the situation in Venezuela today.

[Primer Plano] But how are they going to face their voters? Because when all those people go looking for votes, they talk about decency, dignity, respect for the law, respect for the rule of law.... Don't all of these people who defended this fellow, who you say was proven to have stolen from the Treasury, have a responsibility to their voters?

[Padron] Obviously they do, to their conscience and the country.... I understand why there is incredulity when someone says that the PTJ has lied, doctored files, concealed evidence, and acted hastily on purpose in the case of the murder of that young coed in Maracay, Lorena Marquez de Capriles. It is hard to understand and accept the idea, but it is true. Just as it was true that officials of this same body, on other occasions, in the Ballarales case or the Carmona case, lied, doctored, distorted the truth, tried to portray the facts other than they were, just as a vile murder is now trying to be portrayed as a suicide. This is the power of money, politics, and drug trafficking, which were able to push PTJ officials into lying to the country and portraying as a suicide what was unfortunately a murder.

[Primer Plano] We are commenting now on the terrible tragedy that it means for both the Galdo family and the Capriles family to be involved in this deplorable episode. To some it is a murder, to others a suicide, and we were commenting that the police played a very important role here as the body in charge of the investigations, under the law....

[Padron] ...As soon as I learned of the fact and of how the involvement of officials from the Aragua state government was manipulated, more specifically Manuel Capriles, the then secretary general of government, who was in charge of the state government on 18 June...in the midst of this scenario he concealed the facts and got the local police itself to interfere. This is clearly shown in the file....

Now, three months later, not only have the eight considerations on which the PTJ based its theory of suicide vanished, but the considerations that led us lawmakers to think about a homicide, originally 15, have now increased to more than 50. When Yanez Pasarella announced on the morning of 25 June that it was a suicide, he did not even have in his possession the report of the coroner and of the pathologists who had examined Lorena de Capriles' corpse. It was at 1500 on that same day that it was signed; in other words, he did not even have the evidentiary documents in his possession. He did not have the findings of many other inquiries, and others had been doctored.

The PTJ, for example, went so far as to say that inquiries were made about Manases Capriles and that no evidence was found that he was a drug trafficker. In contrast, the two physicians whom the Aragua PTJ employed testified later before the Congress of the Republic that Manases Capriles' mucous membranes were in poor condition; this shows not that he used cocaine on occasion but rather that he is a regular user, as everyone in Maracay knows.

[Primer Plano] But what was the police supposed to investigate, whether he used drugs or whether the woman had been killed or had committed suicide?

[Padron] The important thing was to ascertain his personal situation on 18 June, whether he had used drugs or not and, of course, what he had done that day. The PTJ did not find this out; it failed to question key individuals....

[Primer Plano] Why would the Caracas PTJ have wanted to lie and doctor the facts?

[Padron] Why would the Caracas PTJ have wanted to alter the facts in the Ballarales case or the Carmona case?

[Primer Plano] The Ballarales case is very different, because in the Ballarales case we are talking about a PTJ agent.... The Carmona case is different too; in the Carmona case it was a gang that operated inside the police.

[Padron] Each is different but embodies the same truth. We are talking about police corruption, about the Venezuelan people's shock that our PTJ could at a given moment

violate the law, doctor facts, change circumstances, and portray the death of a girl as a suicide to protect a third party as a result of pressure from political power, financial power, and the power of drug trafficking, the powers that are behind this falsifying of the truth.

[Primer Plano] But what powers were involved here? The groups accused of murder and drug trafficking are the weak groups in this game. In other words, the governor of Aragua, although he was popularly elected governor of Aragua, belongs to a very small party.... Because besides all this, it was initially attempted...to portray this as a political affair.

[Padron] I do not think so.

[Primer Plano] No. Of course, when an attempt was made to implicate the governor, who was not even there.

[Padron] No. The person who has behaved very tactlessly from the beginning, like a bull in a china shop, has been the governor himself, who has improperly taken to defending the Capriles family far beyond what was proper, thus getting himself involved in the mess....

[Primer Plano] ...Initially, Galdo's first accusation was against the governor.

[Padron] No, it was that state government officials had altered the scene of the crime. The government, among others, is represented by the secretary of government, Manuel Capriles, the brother of Manases Capriles. And Manuel Capriles is personally in charge of the Aragua police, and he....

[Primer Plano] If someone has killed your wife or your sister-in-law, aren't you going to be there? Where else are you going to be?

[Padron] ...Marcel, this again unfortunately shows how justice fails to be served in this country....

[Primer Plano] So what do you propose? How do you think people's confidence in the Judiciary can be restored?

[Padron] ...For the time being, as far as police agencies are concerned, more personnel, and not having them under the political branch...I think that we have to remove the PTJ from the Executive Branch and place it in the hands of the Council of the Judicature....

[Primer Plano] But the Council of the Judicature is telling us that it too is subject to political influence.

[Padron] It is. But it is an institution that we must preserve and keep on improving.... The agencies parallel to the Judiciary, such as notary's offices and registries...commit the most brutal abuses. There are places where a few officials can become vulgarly rich....

[Primer Plano] But...forgive me, if you look at the list of notaries and registrars in our country....

[Padron] The great majority are the wives and children of the country's big shots.... Some notary's offices make millions a month, and the official makes millions of bolivares...because they are violating the law. These institutions are assaulting average citizens and they are ancillary agencies of the Venezuelan judicial system, whereas with the police corruption and inefficiency have appeared.